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A TREATISE  
ON  
THE LAW  
OF  
EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS.

BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE  
SIR EDWARD VAUGHAN WILLIAMS,  
LATE ONE OF THE JUDGES OF HER MAJESTY'S COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

*SEVENTH EDITION.*

BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE  
SIR EDWARD VAUGHAN WILLIAMS,  
AND  
WALTER V. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS, ESQ.  
OF THE INNER TEMPLE, BARRISTER AT LAW.

*SIXTH AMERICAN EDITION,*  
IN WHICH THE SUBJECT OF WILLS IS PARTICULARLY DISCUSSED AND  
ENLARGED UPON.

By J. C. PERKINS, LL. D.

IN THREE VOLUMES.

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## \* BOOK THE FIFTH.

### OF THE STAMP DUTIES ON LEGACIES AND SUCCESSIONS TO PERSONAL ESTATES.

---

BY the statute 55 Geo. 3, c. 184, the stamp duties imposed on legacies, and successions to personal estate upon intestacies, by the statute of 48 Geo. 3, c. 149, are repealed, and the following other stamp duties are substituted : —

I. *Where the Testator, Testatrix, or Intestate, died before or upon the 5th day of April, 1805.*

For every legacy, specific or pecuniary, or of any other description, of the amount or value of 20*l.* or upwards given by any will or testamentary instrument of any person who died before or upon the 5th day of April, 1805, out of his or her personal or movable estate, and which shall *be paid, delivered, retained, satisfied, or discharged, after the thirty-first day of August, 1815* : (a)

Also for the clear residue (when devolving to one person) and for every share of the clear residue (when devolving to two or more persons) of the personal or movable estate of any person who died before or upon the 5th day of April, 1805 (after deducting debts, funeral expenses, legacies, and other charges first payable thereout), whether the title to such residue, or any share thereof, shall accrue by virtue of any testamentary disposition, or upon a partial or total intestacy ; where such residue, or share of residue, shall be of the amount or value of 20*l.* or upwards, and where the same shall be paid, delivered, retained, satisfied, or discharged, after the 31st day of August, 1815 :

(a) As to the construction of these words, see the cases collected, *post*, 1612 *et seq.*  
VOL. III. 1 [1550]

\* Where any such legacy, or residue, or share of such residue, shall have been given, or have devolved, to or for the benefit of a *brother or a sister of the deceased, or any descendant of a brother or sister of the deceased*; a duty at and after the rate of two pounds and ten shillings per centum on the amount or value thereof . . . 2l. 10s. per cent.

Where any such legacy, or residue, or share of such residue, shall have been given, or have devolved, to or for the benefit of a *brother or sister of the father or mother of the deceased, or any descendant of a brother or sister of the father or mother of the deceased*; a duty at and after the rate of four pounds per centum on the amount or value thereof

4l. per cent.

Where any such legacy, or residue, or share of such residue, shall have been given, or have devolved, to or for the benefit of a *brother or sister of a grandfather or grandmother of the deceased, or any descendant of a brother or sister of a grandfather or grandmother of the deceased*; a duty at and after the rate of five pounds per centum on the amount or value thereof . . . . . 5l. per cent.

And where any such legacy, or residue, or share of such residue, shall have been given, or have devolved, to or for the benefit of any person in *any other degree of collateral consanguinity to the deceased* than is above described, or to or for the benefit of *any stranger in blood to the deceased*; (b) a duty at and after the rate of eight pounds per centum on the amount or value thereof . . . . . 8l. per cent.

\* II. *Where the Testator, Testatrix, or Intestate, shall have died after the 5th day of April, 1805. (c)*

For every legacy, specific or pecuniary, or of any other description, of the amount or value of 20l. or upwards, given by any will or testamentary instrument, of any person,

(b) See the Attorney General v. Bacchus, *post*, 1618, and the Attorney General v. Burnie, *post*, 1618; Skotttime v. Young, L. R. 11 Eq. Cas. 47.

(c) The distinctions as to the rates of duties in respect of the wills and administrations of persons who died before this date, and those who died after it, appear

to be these, viz, that under the former, personal estate only is liable to duty — the rates of duty to collaterals and strangers are lower than under the latter, — and property passing to lineal ancestors or descendants is liable to no duty at all. Gwynne on Probate and Legacy Duties, p. 59, 2d ed.

who shall have died after the 5th day of April, 1805, either out of his or her personal or movable estate, or out of or charged upon his or her real or heritable estate, or out of any moneys to arise by the sale, mortgage, or other disposition of his or her real or heritable estate, or any part thereof, and which shall be paid, delivered, retained, satisfied, or discharged, after the 31st day of August, 1815 :

Also, for the clear residue (when devolving to one person) and for every share of the clear residue (when devolving to two or more persons), of the personal or movable estate, of any person, who shall have died after the 5th day of April, 1805 (after deducting debts, funeral expenses, legacies and other charges first payable thereout), whether the title to such residue, or any share thereof, shall accrue by virtue of any testamentary disposition, or upon a partial or total intestacy; where such residue, or share of residue, shall be of the amount or value of 20*l.* or upwards, and where the same shall be paid, delivered, retained, satisfied, or discharged after the 31st day of August, 1815 :

And also for the clear residue (when given to one person) and for every share of the clear residue (when given to two or more persons) of the moneys to arise from the sale, mortgage, or other disposition, of any real or \* heritable estate, directed (*d*) to be sold, mortgaged, or otherwise disposed of, by any will or testamentary instrument of any person, who shall have died after the 5th day of April, 1805 (after deducting debts, funeral expenses, legacies, and other charges first made payable thereout, if any), where such residue, or share of residue, shall amount to 20*l.* or upwards, and where the same shall be paid, retained, or discharged after the 31st day of August, 1815 :

Where any such legacy or residue, or any share of such residue, shall have been given, or have devolved, to or for the benefit of *a child of the deceased, or any descendant of a child of the deceased*, or to or for the benefit of *the father or mother, or any lineal ancestor of the deceased*; a duty at and after the rate of one pound per centum on the amount or value thereof . . . . . 1*l.* per cent.

Where any such legacy, or residue, or any share of such res-

(*d*) As to the construction of this word, see the cases collected, *post*, 1629, 1630.

idue, shall have been given, or have devolved, to or for the benefit of *a brother or sister of the deceased, or any descendant of a brother or sister of the deceased*; a duty at and after the rate of three pounds per centum on the amount or value thereof . . . . . 3l. per cent.

Where any such legacy or residue, or any share of such residue, shall have been given, or have devolved, to or for the benefit of *a brother or sister of the father or mother of the deceased, or any descendant of a brother or sister of the father or mother of the deceased*; a duty at and after the rate of five pounds per centum on the amount and value thereof . . . . . 5l. per cent.

Where any such legacy, or residue, or any share of such residue, shall have been given, or have devolved, to or for the benefit of *a brother or sister of a grandfather \* or grandmother of the deceased, or any descendant of a brother or sister of a grandfather or grandmother of the deceased*; a duty at and after the rate of six pounds per centum on the amount or value thereof . . . . . 6l. per cent.

And where any such legacy, or residue, or any share of such residue, shall have been given, or have devolved to or for the benefit of *any person in any other degree of collateral consanguinity to the deceased* than is above described, or to or for the benefit of *any stranger in blood to the deceased*; a duty at and after the rate of ten pounds per centum on the amount or value thereof . . . . . 10l. per cent.

And all gifts of annuities, or by way of annuity, or of any other partial benefit or interest, out of any such estate or effects as aforesaid, shall be deemed legacies within the intent and meaning of this schedule.

And where any legatee shall take two or more distinct legacies or benefits under any will or testamentary instrument, which shall together be of the amount or value of 20l., each shall be charged with duty, though each or either may be separately under that amount or value.

## EXEMPTIONS.

Legacies, and residues, or shares of residue, of any such estate, or effects as aforesaid, given or devolving, to or for the benefit of the husband or wife (*e*) of the deceased, or to or for the benefit of any of the royal family.

\* And all legacies which were exempted from duty by the act passed in the thirty-ninth year of his majesty's reign, c. 73, for exempting certain specific legacies given to bodies corporate, or other public bodies, from the payment of duty. (*f*)

By section 8 of the statute, it is provided, that all the powers and provisions, clauses, regulations and directions, fines, forfeitures, pains and penalties, contained in the former acts relating to the repealed duties, shall extend to the duties granted by the present. (*g*) It is therefore necessary to recur to the provisions of the earlier statutes.

Powers and provisions of former acts to extend to 55 Geo. 3, c. 184.

By the statute 20 Geo. 3, c. 28, certain stamp duties were imposed for every receipt or other discharge for any legacy left by any will or other testamentary instrument, or for any share or part of a personal estate divided by force of the statute of distributions, or the custom of any province or place; and by section 3 it was enacted, that no such receipt unstamped should be pleaded or given in evidence in any court.

20 Geo. 3, c. 28.

By the statute 23 Geo. 3, c. 58, additional stamp duties were imposed. And by section 8 it was enacted, that the receipts, &c. should be stamped before written upon.

23 Geo. 3, c. 58.

By the statute 29 Geo. 3, c. 51, additional duties were imposed, which, as well as the duties imposed by the preceding acts, were repealed by the statute 36 Geo. 3, c. 52.

29 Geo. 3, c. 51.

By these statutes, it will be observed, the duties were imposed merely on the *receipts* for legacies and shares of residue. But this mode of imposition was found to be disadvantageous to the

(*e*) A legacy, in order to fall within this exception, must be for the *absolute* benefit of the husband or wife. Therefore bequests by a husband to his wife "for her and her family," or "to maintain her and our children," if they are given so as to create a trust as between the widow and

children (see the cases collected, *ante*, 1125, 1126), are liable to the duty in respect of the interests of the children. In re Harris, 7 Ex. 344.

(*f*) See *post*, 1636.

(*g*) See this section stated *verbatim*, *ante*, 609.



revenue; inasmuch as, if executors or administrators chose to rely on the good faith of legatees or next of kin, and to run the risk of taking no receipts from them, the duties were altogether evaded. (h)

To obviate this, the statute 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, after repealing Stat. 36 Geo. 3, c. 52. \* the preceding duties, imposes new ones, not upon the receipts, but upon the legacies and shares of residue themselves. And after enacting, by section 27, that no legacy, &c. shall be paid without a receipt, proceeds, by section 28, to lay a penalty on persons paying or receiving legacies, &c. without receipts stamped in pursuance of the act. But it is provided, by section 41, that the receipt so stamped shall not be required to have a receipt stamp also.

As a due compliance with the provisions of this act of parliament is so necessary for the proper performance of the office of executor or administrator, it is judged expedient to insert in this place, *verbatim*, some of its most material enactments.

By section 6 it is enacted, "That the duties hereby imposed shall, *in all cases in which it is not hereby otherwise provided*, be accounted for, answered, and paid, by the person or persons having or taking the burden of the execution of the will, or other testamentary instrument, or the administration of the personal estate of any person deceased, upon retainer for his, her, or their own benefit, or for the benefit of any other person or persons, of any legacy or any part of any legacy, or of the residue of any personal estate, or any part of such residue, which he, she, or they shall be entitled so to retain, either in his, her, or their own right, or in the right or for the benefit of any other person or persons; and also upon delivery, payment, or other satisfaction or discharge whatsoever, of any legacy, or any part of any legacy, or of the residue of any personal estate, or any part of such residue, to which any other person or persons shall be entitled; and in case any person or persons, having or taking the burden of such execution or administration as aforesaid, shall retain for his, her, or their own benefit, or for the benefit of any other person or persons, any legacy, or any part of any legacy, or the residue of any personal estate, or any part of such residue, which such person or persons shall be entitled

Duties to be paid by executors or administrators, on retaining or paying legacies.

If duty be not paid before legacies are retained by executors, or discharged, they having deduct-

(h) See *Green v. Croft*, 2 H. Bl. 33, 34; *Hill v. Atkinson*, 2 Meriv. 53.

so to retain, either in his, her, or their own right, or in the right or for the benefit of any other person \* or persons, and upon which any duty shall be chargeable by virtue of this act, not having first paid such duty, or shall deliver, pay, or otherwise howsoever satisfy or discharge any legacy, or any part of any legacy, or the residue of any personal estate, or any part thereof, to which any other person or persons shall be entitled, and upon which any duty shall be chargeable by virtue of this act, having received or deducted the duty so chargeable, then and in every of such case, the duty which shall be due and payable upon every such legacy, and part of legacy, and residue, and part of residue respectively, and which shall not have been duly paid and satisfied to his majesty, his heirs and successors, according to the provisions of this act, shall be a debt of such person or persons having or taking the burden of such execution or administration as aforesaid, to his majesty, his heirs and successors; and in case any such person or persons, so having or taking the burden of such execution or administration as aforesaid, shall deliver, pay, or otherwise howsoever satisfy or discharge any such legacy or residue, or any part of any such legacy or residue, to or for the benefit of any person or persons entitled thereto, without having received or having deducted the duty chargeable thereon (such duty not having been first duly paid to his majesty, his heirs or successors, according to the provisions herein contained), then and in every such case such duty shall be a debt to his majesty, his heirs and successors, both of the person or persons who shall make such delivery, payment, satisfaction, or discharge, and of the person or persons to whom the same shall be made." (i)

Sect. 7. "That any gift by any will or testamentary instrument of any person dying after the passing of this \* act, which shall, by virtue of such will or testamentary instrument, have effect, or be satisfied out of the personal estate of such person so dying, or out of any personal estate which such person shall have power to dispose of as he or

ed it, the amount to be a debt from them to his majesty; and if they pay legacies without deducting the duty, it shall be a debt from both parties.

What shall be deemed legacies within the intent of this act.

(i) But where two legacies, though given in respect of the same portion of the testator's property, are distinct and separate, the legatee of the one legacy is not a debtor to the crown in respect of the duty on the other, nor has the crown any lien on the subject of the one legacy in respect of duty on the subject of the other. *Atty. Gen. v. Giles*, 5 H. & N. 255.

she shall think fit, (j) shall be deemed and taken to be a legacy within the intent and meaning of this act, whether the same shall be given by way of annuity or in any other form, and whether the same shall be charged only on such personal estate, or charged also on real estate of the testator or testatrix who shall give the same; except so far as the same shall be paid or satisfied out of such real estate, in a due execution of the will or testamentary instrument by which the same shall be given; and every gift which shall have effect as a donation *mortis causa*, shall also be deemed a legacy within the intent and meaning of this act."

Sect. 8. "That the value of any legacy given by way of annuity, (k) whether payable annually or otherwise, for any life or lives, or for years determinable on any life or lives, or for years or other period of time, shall be calculated, and the duty chargeable thereon shall be charged, according to the tables in the schedule hereunto annexed. (l) And the duty chargeable on such annuity shall be paid by four equal payments, the first of which payments of duty shall be made before or on completing the payment of the first year's annuity, and the three others of such payments of duty shall \*be made in like manner successively, before or on completing the respective payments of the three succeeding years' annuity respectively; and the value of any such annuity, if determinable upon any contingency besides the death of any person or persons, shall be calculated without regard to such contingency; provided always, That if any such annuity shall determine by the death of any person, before four years' payment of such annuity shall become due and payable, then and in such case the duty shall be payable in proportion only to so many of the payments of the said annuity as actually accrued and became due and payable; and in case any such annuity shall at any time

(j) See *In re Cholmondeley*, *post*, 1623; *Platt v. Routh*, *post*, 1624, and stat. 8 & 9 Vict. c. 76, s. 4; *post*, 1623.

(k) See *Crow v. Robinson*, 31 L. J. N. S. Ch. 516, as to what are annuities within this section.

(l) In the *Atty. Gen. v. Wynford*, 9 Ex. 746, a question arose on the construction of a will, whether a legatee took an annuity for his own life only, or for the joint lives of himself and his wife,

which was material, inasmuch as, by these tables, a larger amount of duty was payable in the former case. New tables are given in lieu of these, by the 31st section of the act (16 & 17 Vict. c. 51) *post*, 1601. But it has been held that the new tables apply only to legacies given after the 19th May, 1853 (when the act came in force). In *re Earl Cornwallis*, 11 Ex. 580.

determine upon any other contingency than the death of any person or persons, then and in such case, not only all payments of duty which would otherwise become due after the happening of such contingency, if any such would become due, shall cease; but it shall be lawful for the person or persons who shall have paid any duties which shall have previously become due, to apply for and obtain a return of so much of the duty so paid as will reduce the same to the like duty as would have been payable by such person or persons for such annuity, calculated according to the term for which the same shall have endured, which abatement the said commissioners for management of the stamp duties shall settle and determine according to the tables in the schedule hereunto annexed, and shall cause the amount of such abatement to be paid to the person or persons entitled to the same, out of any moneys in their hands arising from the duties imposed by this act."

Sect. 9. "That the value of any legacy given by way of annuity for any life or lives, or for years determinable on any life or lives, or for years or other period of time, and charged on and made payable out of any other legacy or legacies, shall be calculated, and the duty shall be charged thereon, in the same manner as hereinbefore directed with respect to other annuities; and the duty on the legacy charged with such annuity, if any duty shall be payable for such legacy, shall be calculated on the value of such legacy, \*after deducting the value of such annuity; and the duty for such annuity shall be paid by the person or persons entitled to the legacy or legacies charged with such annuity, by four equal payments, in the same manner as the same would be payable according to the provisions hereinbefore contained, if such annuity had been a direct gift to the annuitant, and subject to the like proviso in case such annuity shall determine before four years' payments shall become due; and the payment which shall be made for such duty shall be retained by the person or persons paying the same, out of the first four years' payments of such annuity, if so many shall become due, or out of so many of such payments as shall become due by equal portions."

The value of annuities payable out of legacies, and the duty, to be calculated according to the annexed tables, and the duty to be charged on the value of such legacies after deducting such annuities, &c.

Sect. 10. "That the duty payable upon any legacy given by direction to purchase with any personal estate of the testator or testatrix, or any part thereof, an annuity of a

Duty on legacies given to

purchase annuities to be calculated on the sums necessary to purchase them.

certain amount for the life or lives of any person or persons, or any other term, shall be calculated upon the sum necessary to purchase such annuity according to the tables before mentioned, and shall be deducted from such sum, and paid as in the case of other pecuniary legacies; and the person or persons paying or satisfying such legacy, and the person or persons for whose benefit the same shall be paid or satisfied, shall be discharged, by payment of such duty so calculated as aforesaid, from all other demands in respect of the duty payable on such legacy; and the annuity to be purchased for the benefit of the person or persons entitled to the benefit of such legacy shall be reduced in proportion to the amount of the duty payable thereon as aforesaid, such reduction to be calculated in the same manner as the duty so payable as hereinbefore directed to be calculated; and the purchase of such reduced annuity, together with the payment of such duty, shall satisfy and discharge such legacy as fully as if an annuity had been purchased equal in amount to the annuity so directed to be purchased."

Sect. 11. "If any benefit shall be given by any will or testamentary instrument, in such terms that the amount or \* value of such benefit can only be ascertained from time to time by the actual application for that purpose of the fund allotted for such purpose, or made chargeable therewith; or if the amount or value of any benefit given by any will or testamentary instrument, cannot, by reason of the form and manner of the gift, be so ascertained that the duty can be charged thereon under any other of the directions herein contained; then and in every such case such duty shall be charged upon the several sums of money or effects which shall be applied from time to time for the purposes directed by such will or testamentary instrument, as separate and distinct legacies or bequests, and shall be paid out of the fund applicable for such purposes or charged with answering the same."

Sect. 12. "The duty payable on a legacy, or residue, or part of residue, of any personal estate given to or for the benefit of, or so that the same shall be enjoyed by different persons in succession, who shall be chargeable with the duties hereby imposed at one and the same rate, shall

Duty on legacies whose value can only be ascertained by application of the allotted fund, to be charged on the money as applied. (m)

How duty on legacies enjoyed by persons in succession, or having

(m) See *In re Wilkinson post*, 1634, 1635; *Atty. Gen. v. Fitzgerald, post*, 1635.

be charged upon and paid out of the legacy, or residue, or part of residue so given, as in the case of a legacy to one person; and where any legacy, or residue, or part of residue shall be given to or for the benefit of, or so that the same shall be enjoyed by different persons in succession, some or one of whom shall be chargeable with no duty, or some of whom shall be chargeable with different rates of duty, so that one rate of duty cannot be immediately charged thereon, all persons who, under or in consequence of any such bequest, shall be entitled for life only, or any other temporary interest, shall be chargeable with the duty in respect of such bequest, in the same manner as if the annual produce thereof had been given by way of annuity; and such persons respectively shall be so chargeable with such duty, and the same shall be payable when they shall respectively become \* entitled to and begin to receive such produce, and shall be paid by equal portions during the aforesaid term of four years, if they shall so long continue to receive such produce; and where any other partial interest shall be given, or shall arise out of such property so to be enjoyed in succession, the duty on such partial interest shall be charged and paid in the same manner as the duty is hereinbefore directed to be charged and paid in like cases of partial interests, charged on any property given, otherwise than to different persons in succession; and all and every person and persons who shall become absolutely entitled to any such legacy, or residue, or part of residue, so to be enjoyed in succession, shall, when and as such person or persons respectively shall receive the same, or begin to enjoy the benefit thereof, be chargeable with and pay the duty for the same, or such part thereof as shall be so received, or of which the benefit shall be so enjoyed, in the same manner as if the same had come to such person or persons immediately on the death of the person by whom such property shall have been given to be enjoyed, or in such manner that the same shall be enjoyed in succession." (n)

(n) See *Atty. Gen. v. Giles*, 5 H. & N. 255. A testator bequeathed his residuary estate to his daughter for life, after which to her husband. On the testator's death 11. per cent. duty was paid on her life interest, according to this section. Afterwards her husband, having bequeathed his personal estate to her, predeceased her. His executors disclaimed the bequest to him in the original will, and contended, consequently, that the residue of his wife's father's estate passed, as undisposed of, to her as his sole next of kin, and was chargeable, therefore, with only 11. per cent. duty, and not 101. per cent. (the rate payable by the husband). But it was held

Sect. 13. "That the duty payable on any legacy, or residue, and by whom payable. or part of residue, so given to or so to be enjoyed by different persons in succession, upon whom the duty shall be chargeable at one and the same rate, shall be deducted and paid by the person or persons having or taking \* the burden of the execution of the will or testamentary instrument under which the title thereto shall arise, upon payment or other satisfaction or discharge of every or any part of such legacy or residue, or part of residue, to any trustee or trustees, or other person or persons to whom the same shall be payable, or paid in trust or for the benefit of the persons so entitled thereto in succession; and if the same shall not be so paid or satisfied to any such trustee or trustees, then such duty shall be deducted and paid out of the capital of the property so given, upon receipt, by any of the persons so entitled in succession, of any produce of such capital, or any part thereof, according to the amount of the capital of which such produce shall be so received; and where the duty chargeable upon any such bequest for the benefit of or to be enjoyed by different persons in succession, shall be chargeable at different rates, so that the same cannot be paid at one and the same time, but must be paid in succession as aforesaid, then and in such case, all and every the person and persons having or taking the burden of the execution of the will or testamentary instrument in which such bequest shall be contained, shall be chargeable with such duties in succession, in the same manner as such persons would be chargeable with the like duties in case of immediate bequest; unless the property bequeathed shall have been paid or otherwise satisfied to or vested in any trustees or trustee as aforesaid, in which case such trustees or trustee, or his, her, or their representatives, shall be chargeable with the duties for and in respect of such property so vested in him, her, or them respectively, in such and the same manner as if he, she, or they had had or taken the burden of the execution of the will or testamentary instrument, by which such bequest shall have been made; and in like manner, where any partial interest shall be given, or shall arise out of any such property so to be enjoyed in succession, and such partial interest shall be satisfied or paid by the person or persons so enjoying such property, such person or persons shall be chargeable with

that the disclaimer was inoperative as to the duty. *Atty. Gen. v. Munby*, 3 H. & N. 826.

the duties \* for and in respect of such partial interest, and shall retain and pay the same accordingly, in such and the same manner as if he, she, or they had had or taken the burden of the execution of the will or testamentary instrument, by which such partial interest shall have been created; and in all such cases, the person persons so chargeable with duty shall be debtors to the king's majesty, his heirs and successors, in like manner, and shall be subject to the like penalties as the person or persons having or taking the burden of the execution of such will or testamentary interest are hereby made chargeable and subject to."

Sect. 14. "Provided always, That no duty shall be paid on any articles of plate, furniture, or other things, not yielding any income, and given to or for the benefit of, or so as that the same be enjoyed by, different persons in succession, whilst the same shall be so enjoyed in kind only by any person or persons not having any power of selling or disposing thereof, so as to convert the same into money or other property yielding an income; but if the same shall be actually sold and disposed of, or shall come to any person or persons having power to sell or dispose thereof, or having an absolute interest therein, then, and in each and every such case, the same duty shall be chargeable and paid thereon as if the same had been originally given absolutely, and with full power to sell or dispose thereof, and shall be chargeable upon and paid by the person or persons for whose benefit the same shall be sold, or who shall have power to sell or dispose thereof, or an absolute interest therein, and shall become the debt of such person or persons; but shall not be a charge on any person or persons by reason of his, her, or their having assented to such bequest, as the person or persons having or taking the burden of the execution of the will or testamentary instrument by which such bequest shall have been made."

Plate, &c. while enjoyed in kind, not liable to duty till in possession of persons having power to dispose thereof.

Sect. 15. "Provided always, That where any legacy, or any residue, or part of residue, shall be so given by any will or testamentary instrument, that different persons shall \* become entitled thereto in succession, the duty shall be charged thereon as given to be enjoyed in succession, whether the person or persons entitled thereto shall take the same under or by virtue of such will or testamentary instrument, and the dispositions therein con-

Duty on legacies enjoyed in succession to be charged as such, whether taken under wills or by intestacy.



tained, or in default of such dispositions, and as entitled by intestacy."

**Sect. 16.** "Where any legacy, or residue, or part of residue, shall be given to or for the benefit of any person or persons in joint tenancy, some or one of whom shall be chargeable with any duty hereby imposed, and some or one of whom shall not be so chargeable, the person or persons chargeable with duty shall pay such duty in proportion to the interest of such person or persons respectively in such bequest; and if any person or persons chargeable with duty, and entitled in joint tenancy as aforesaid, shall become entitled by survivorship, or by severance of the joint tenancy, to any larger interest in the property bequeathed, than that in respect of which such duty shall have been paid, then and in such case all and every such person or persons so becoming entitled by survivorship, or by severance, shall be charged with the same duty as if the property to which such joint tenant or joint tenants shall so become entitled had been originally given to or for the benefit of such person or persons only."

Duty on legacies in joint tenancy to be paid in proportion to the interests of the parties.

**Sect. 17.** "When any legacy, or any residue, or part of residue, shall be given, subject to any contingency which may defeat such gift, and whereupon the same may go to some other person or persons, such bequest (unless chargeable as an annuity under the provisions herein contained) shall be charged with duty as an absolute bequest, to the person or persons who shall take the same subject to such contingency, and such duty shall be paid out of the capital of such legacy, or residue, or part of residue, notwithstanding the same may, upon such contingency, go to some person not chargeable with the same duty, or with any duty; and if such contingency shall afterwards happen, and the property so bequeathed shall thereupon go in such manner that the same, if taken immediately after the death of the testator or \*testatrix, under the same title would have been chargeable with a higher rate of duty than the duty so paid, the person or persons becoming entitled thereto shall be charged with and shall pay the difference between the duty so paid and such higher rate of duty."

Duty on legacies subject to contingencies, to be charged as for absolute bequests, &c.

**Sect. 18.** "Where any legacy, or the residue, or any part of the residue, of any personal estate, shall be subjected to any power of appointment to or for the benefit of any per-

How duty on legacies subject to

son or persons specially named or described as objects of such power, such property shall be charged with duty as property given to different persons in succession; and in so charging such duty, not only the person and persons who shall take previous or subject to such power of appointment, but also any person and persons who shall take under or in default of any such appointment, when and as they shall so take respectively, shall, in respect of their several interests, whether previous, or subject to, or under, or in default of such appointment, be charged with the same duty, and in the same manner, as if the same interests had been given to him, her, or them, respectively, in and by the will or testamentary disposition containing such power, in the same order and course of succession as shall take place under and by virtue of such power of appointment, or in default of execution thereof, as the case may happen to be; and where any property shall be given for any limited interest, and a general and absolute power of appointment shall also be given to any person or persons to whom the property would not belong in default of such appointment, such property, upon the execution of such power, shall be charged with the same duty, and in the same manner, as if the same property had been immediately given to the person or persons having and executing such power, after allowing any duty before paid in respect thereof; and where any property shall be given with any such general power of appointment, which property, \*in default of appointment, will belong to the person or persons to whom such power shall also be given, such property shall be charged with, and shall pay the duty by this act imposed, in the same manner as if such property had been given to such person or persons absolutely in the first instance, without such power of appointment.”

power of  
appoint-  
ment  
shall be  
charged;  
(o)

Sect. 19. “Any sum of money or personal estate, directed to be applied in the purchase of real estate, shall be charged with and pay duty as personal estate; unless the same shall be so given as to be enjoyed by different persons in succession, and then each person entitled thereto in succession shall pay duty for the same in the same manner as if the same had not been directed to be applied in the purchase of real estate unless the same shall have been actually

and how  
on per-  
sonal es-  
tates di-  
rected to be  
applied in  
purchase  
of real es-  
tates.

(o) See *Platt v. Routh*, *post*, 1624; *Atty. Gen. v. Brackenbury*, 1 H. & C. 782, *post*, 1625.

applied in the purchase of real estate before such duty accrued ; but no duty shall accrue in respect thereof, after the same shall have been actually applied in the purchase of real estate, for so much thereof as shall have been so applied. Provided, nevertheless, That in case before the same or some part thereof shall be actually so applied, any person or persons shall become entitled to an estate of inheritance in possession in the real estate, to be purchased therewith, or with so much thereof as shall not have been applied in the purchase of real estate, the same duty which ought to be paid by such person or persons, if absolutely entitled thereto as personal estate by virtue of any bequest thereof as such, shall be charged on such person or persons, and raised and paid out of the fund remaining to be applied in such purchase.” (p)

Estates *pur  
auter vie*  
applicable  
as personal  
estates, to  
be charged  
as such.

Sect. 20. “That estates *pur auter vie*, applicable by law in the same manner as personal estate, shall be charged with the duties hereby imposed as personal estate.”

Money left  
to pay  
duty not  
chargeable  
as a leg-  
acy. (g)

Sect. 21. “Provided always, That if any direction shall be given, by any will or testamentary instrument, for payment of the duty chargeable upon any legacy or bequest out \* of some other fund, so that such legacy or bequest may pass to the person or persons to whom or for whose benefit the same shall be given, free of duty, no duty shall be chargeable upon the money to be applied for the payment of such duty, notwithstanding the same may be deemed a legacy, to or for the benefit of the person or persons who would otherwise pay such duty.”

Mode of  
ascertain-  
ing duty  
on prop-  
erty not re-  
duced into  
money.

Sect. 22. “In cases of specific legacies, and where the residue of any personal estate shall consist of property which shall not be reduced into money, it shall be lawful for the person or persons having or taking the burden of the administration of such effects, or the person or persons by whom the duty thereon ought to be paid, to set a value thereon, and offer to pay the duty according to such value, or to require the commissioners for management of the stamp duties, to appoint a person to set such value, at the expense of

(p) *De Lancey v. The Queen*, L. R. 6 title a legatee to receive his legacy free of Ex. 286, affirmed in *Cam. Scacc. L. R.* duty, see the cases collected, *infra*, 1643 7 Ex. 140. *et seq.*

(g) As to what terms in a will shall en-

the person or persons by whom such duty ought to be paid ; and it shall be lawful for the commissioners to accept the duty offered to be paid, upon the value set by the person or persons having or taking the administration of such effects, or by whom the duty for the same shall be payable without such appraisement, if the said commissioners shall think fit so to do ; but if the said commissioners shall not be satisfied with the value so set, on which the duty shall be so offered, it shall be lawful for the said commissioners, notwithstanding such offer, to appoint a person to appraise such effects, and to set the value thereon, on which value so set the said commissioners shall assess the duty payable in respect thereof, and require the same to be paid ; but if the person or persons by whom such duty shall be payable, shall not be satisfied with the valuation made under the authority of the said commissioners, and pay the duty accordingly, it shall be lawful for such person or persons to cause the \* valuation so made under the authority of the said commissioners, to be reviewed by the commissioners of the land tax for the time being, of the district or place where such effects shall be at their next meeting, after the said commissioners for management of the stamp duties shall have assessed and required payment of such duty as aforesaid, if fourteen days shall have elapsed between such time and the meeting of the said commissioners of land tax, and if not, then at the next succeeding meeting of the said commissioners, of which appeal six days' notice shall be given to the said commissioners of stamp duties ; and the said commissioners of the land tax shall and may (if they think fit) appoint a person to appraise such effects, and set a value thereon, and shall and may hear and determine such appeal, in the same manner as in any other cases of appeal to them, and with the like authorities, and their judgment shall be final ; and if the valuation made under the authority of the said commissioners of the stamp duties in the case last mentioned, shall not be duly appealed from within the time aforesaid, or shall be affirmed upon appeal, the duty shall be paid according to such valuation ; and if any variation shall be made on such appeal, the duty shall be paid according to such variation ; and if the duty assessed in manner aforesaid shall exceed the duty offered to and refused by the said commissioners of stamp duties, the expense of such appraisement and other proceedings in assessing such duties, shall be borne by the person or persons by whom such duty shall be payable ;

and if any dispute shall arise between any person or persons entitled to any such legacy, or residue, or part of residue, and any person or persons having or taking the burden of the administration of such effects, with respect to the value thereof, or with respect to the duty to be paid thereon, the duty shall be assessed by the said commissioners of stamp duties on reference to them by either party for that purpose; and if the value of any property on which such duty ought to be paid shall be in dispute, the said commissioners of the stamp duties shall cause an appraisement to be made thereof \* at the expense of the person or persons by whom such duty ought to be paid, in the manner hereinbefore directed in other cases, and assess the duty thereon accordingly; and if such person or persons by whom such duty ought to be paid, shall be dissatisfied with such valuation, or with the assessment of duty made upon such valuation, by the said commissioners of the stamp duties, the same shall be reviewed and finally determined by the said commissioners of the land tax, upon appeal to them within the time, and under the restrictions, and in the manner hereinbefore directed in other cases; but if such valuation or assessment shall not be duly appealed from within the time limited for that purpose, or shall be affirmed upon appeal, the duty shall be paid according thereto; and if any variation shall be made therein on such appeal the duty shall be paid according to such variation; and in case the effects whereon any such duty shall be payable shall be at the distance of ten miles from London, then and in such case it shall be lawful to make the like application to such person as shall be deputed for that purpose by the said commissioners to act in their stead, in such cases, within the county or district in which such effects shall be; and such person so deputed shall act in such cases, in all respects, in the same manner as the said commissioners are hereby authorized to act, subject nevertheless to the instructions and control of the said commissioners."

Duty on legacies not satisfied in money, &c. to be paid according to the value of the satisfaction.

Sect. 23. "Where any legacy, or part of any legacy, or residue, or part of any residue, whereon any duty shall be chargeable by this act, shall be satisfied otherwise than by payment of money or application of specific effects for that purpose, or shall be released for consideration or compounded for less than the amount of value thereof, then and in such case the duty shall be charged and paid in respect of such legacy, or part of legacy, or res-

idue, or part of residue, according to the amount or value of the property taken in satisfaction thereof, or as the consideration for release thereof or composition for the same. Provided always, That if any legacy, or bequest, shall be made in satisfaction \* of any other legacy, or bequest, or title to any residue, or part of residue, of any personal estate remaining unpaid, the duty shall not be paid on both subjects, although both may be chargeable with duty, but shall be paid on the subject yielding the largest duty."

Sect. 24. "If any person or persons having or taking the burden of the execution of the will or other testamentary instrument, or the administration of the personal estate of any person deceased, or any person or persons hereby made chargeable with duty, shall declare himself, herself, or themselves ready and willing, and shall accordingly offer to pay any pecuniary legacy, or residue, or part of residue, deducting the duty payable thereon, or shall in like manner offer to deliver or otherwise dispose of any specific legacy, or any specific property, part of any residue of any personal estate, to or for the benefit of the person or persons entitled thereto, or to any trustee or trustees for such person or persons, upon payment of the duty payable in respect thereof, and the person or persons entitled to such legacy, or residue, or part of residue, or the trustee or trustees for such person or persons, shall refuse to accept such offer and to give a proper release and discharge for such legacy or residue, or so much thereof as shall be offered to be paid, delivered, or otherwise disposed of as aforesaid, then and in such case, although no actual tender shall be made, if any suit shall be afterwards instituted for such legacy or effects, respecting which such offer shall have been made, it shall be lawful for the court in which suit shall be instituted, to order all costs, charges, and expenses attending the same, to be paid by the person or persons who shall have refused to accept such offer, and to give or join in such release or discharge, or to order such costs, charges, and expenses, to be deducted and retained out of such legacy or effects, together with the duty payable thereon, as the said court shall see fit; and in case any suit shall be instituted for payment of any legacy, or residue, or part of residue, of any personal estate, and the person or persons sued for the same \*shall be desirous of staying proceedings in such suit, on payment of the money

If legatees refuse to accept legacies, duty deducted, the court, in case of suit, may order them to pay costs:

and in suits where the party sued may wish to stop pro-

ceedings on payment of bequests deducting duty, the court may make order therein.

due, or delivering or otherwise disposing of the specific effects demanded, after deducting or receiving the duty payable thereon, it shall be lawful for the court in which such suit shall be instituted, if it shall see fit, on application in a summary way, to make such order for payment of such legacy, or residue, or part of residue, or for delivering or otherwise disposing of such effects, and for payment of the duty payable thereon, and all such costs, charges, and expenses attending such suit, as shall be just."

Sect. 25. "If any suit shall be instituted concerning the administration of the personal estate of any person dying testate, or intestate, or any part of such estate in which any direction shall be given touching the payment of any legacies or legacy of such person, or the residue of his or her personal estate, or any part thereof, the court wherein such suit shall be instituted shall, in giving directions concerning the same, provide for the due payment of the duties hereby imposed; and in taking any account of any personal estate, or otherwise acting concerning the same, such court shall take care that no allowance shall be made in respect of any legacy, or part of legacy, or of any residue, or part of residue, in any manner whatsoever, without due proof of the payment of the duties hereby imposed."

Sect. 26. "Provided always, That any person or persons having or taking the burden of the execution of any will or other testamentary instrument, or the administration of the personal estate of any person deceased, may from time to time pay, deliver, or otherwise dispose of any legacy, or any part of any legacy, or make distribution of any part of the residue of any personal estate, on payment, from time to time, of such proportions of the duty hereby imposed, as shall accrue in respect of such part of such personal estate as shall be so administered."

\*Sect. 27. "No person or persons having or taking the burden of the execution of any will or testamentary instrument, or the administration of the personal estate of any person deceased, nor any trustee or trustees, or other person or persons hereby directed and required to account for

(r) See *Foster v. Ley*, 2 Bing. N. S. W. 381. See, also, *Hicks v. Keat*, 3 Beav. 1402; *post*, 1649; In *re Sammon*, 3 M. & 141.

any duty, shall, from and after the passing of this act, <sup>taining cer-  
tain par-  
ticulars;</sup> pay, deliver, or otherwise dispose of, or in any manner satisfy, discharge, or compound for any legacy whatsoever, or any part thereof, or the residue of any personal estate, or any part thereof, in respect whereof any duty is hereby imposed, without taking a receipt or discharge in writing for the same, expressing the date of such receipt or discharge, and the names of the testator, testatrix, or intestate, under whose will, or testamentary disposition, or upon whose intestacy the title to such legacy, or part of legacy, or to such residue, or part of residue, shall accrue, and of the person or persons to whom such receipt or discharge shall be given, and of the person or persons to whom such legacy, or residue, or part of residue, shall have been given, or shall have belonged in consequence of intestacy, and the amount or value of the legacy, or part of legacy, or residue, or part of residue for which such receipt or discharge shall be given, and also the amount and the rate of the duty payable and allowed thereon; and that no written receipt or discharge for any legacy or part of any legacy, or for the residue of any personal estate, or any part of such residue, in respect whereof any duty is hereby imposed, shall be received in evidence, or be <sup>no receipt  
available  
unless duly  
stamped,  
&c.</sup> available in any manner whatever, unless the same shall be stamped, as required by this act; and no evidence whatsoever shall be given of any payment, satisfaction, or discharge whatsoever, or of any release or composition of such legacy, or any part thereof, or of such residue, or any part thereof, without producing such receipt or discharge, duly stamped as aforesaid, unless the actual payment of the duty hereby imposed shall first be given in evidence. Provided always, That a copy of the entry, <sup>Copy of  
entry at  
stamp of-  
fice of pay-  
ment of  
duty, evi-  
dence.</sup> in the books of the commissioners of stamps, of the payment of such duty, \*shall be admitted as evidence thereof. Provided also, That payment of any annuity shall not be deemed a payment for which such stamped receipt shall be required, under the directions of this act, except the several payments which shall complete the payments for each of the first four years, during which such annuity shall be payable; and in like manner any payment in respect of any legacy or bequest, hereby directed to be charged with the duty in the same <sup>Stamped  
receipts for  
annuities  
not re-  
quired but  
on com-  
pleting  
payments  
for each of  
the first  
four years.</sup> manner as annuities are hereby made chargeable with duty, shall



not be deemed a payment for which such stamped receipt shall be required, except the several payments which shall complete the payments for each of the first four years in respect of which such legacy or bequest shall be chargeable with duty as an annuity."

**Sect. 28.** "That any person having or taking the burden of the execution of any will or testamentary instrument, or the administration of the personal estate of any person deceased, and any trustee or trustees, or other person or persons hereby directed and required to account for any duty, who shall pay, deliver, or otherwise dispose of, or in any manner satisfy or discharge, or compound for any legacy given by such will or testamentary instrument, or the residue, or any part of the residue, of such personal estate, to or for the benefit of any person or persons entitled to such legacy or any part thereof, or to such residue, or any part thereof, without taking such receipt or discharge in writing as aforesaid, and causing the same to be stamped within the time hereby allowed for stamping the same, shall forfeit and lose the sum of ten pounds *per centum* on the sum of money, or the value of the property if not money, for which such receipt or discharge ought to have been given in pursuance of this act; and all and every person and persons receiving or taking the benefit of any such money, or other property without giving a written receipt or discharge for the same, in which the duty payable in respect thereof shall be expressed to have been allowed or paid to the person or persons to whom such receipt or discharge shall be given, \* and which shall bear date on the day of signing the same, shall forfeit and lose the sum of ten pounds *per centum* on the sum of money, or on the value of the property, so received or taken."

Penalty of 10*l.* per cent. for paying or receiving legacies without stamped receipts.

**Sect. 29.** "Every such receipt or discharge shall be brought within the space of twenty-one days after the date thereof, to the said head office of the said commissioners, or to some other office to be appointed by the said commissioners for such purpose, to be stamped, paying the duty for the same, and upon such payment either at the said head office, or at any other office to be appointed as aforesaid, the receiver general or other proper officer to be appointed for that purpose by the said commissioners, as the case shall require, shall write upon such receipt or

Receipts to be stamped within twenty-one days after date, on which an acknowledgment of payment of the duty shall be written, &c.

discharge an acknowledgment of the payment of the duty so paid in words at length, and bearing date the day on which such payment shall be made, and shall subscribe his name thereto, and enter an account thereof in a book or books to be provided for that purpose, to the intent that he may be thereby charged with the sum so paid; and in case the duty shall be so paid at the said head office, then the receipt or discharge so brought to be stamped, shall be forthwith stamped with one of the said four stamps as the case shall require; and in case the duty shall be so paid at any other office to be appointed by the said commissioners as aforesaid, the receipt or discharge whereon such acknowledgment of the payment of duty shall be so written and subscribed, shall be transmitted within the space of twenty-one days from the day of payment of such duty to the said head office to be stamped, and the same shall be stamped accordingly with one of the said four stamps as the case shall require; and in case the person or persons paying such duty at any such office to be appointed as aforesaid, shall be desirous that the same should be transmitted to the said head office, by the officer to whom such duty shall be paid, and shall leave the same with such officer for such purpose, such officer shall thereupon sign and deliver an \*acknowledgment, that such receipt or discharge has been left with him for such purpose, and shall transmit such receipt or discharge to such head office to be stamped as aforesaid, and the same shall be sent again to such officer as soon as conveniently may be after the stamping thereof; and such officer shall deliver back the same to the person or persons entitled thereto, upon redelivery to him of the acknowledgment which he shall have given for the same. Provided always, That if any such receipt or discharge shall not be so brought to any such office as aforesaid, within such space of twenty-one days as aforesaid, it shall nevertheless be lawful to carry such receipt or discharge to the said head office to be stamped in like manner, within three calendar months after the date thereof, paying the duty for the same, and also the further sum of ten pounds *per centum* on such duty, by way of penalty for not having before paid such duty on payment of which duty and penalty, the said commissioners are hereby authorized and required to stamp such receipt or discharge, in the same manner as if the same had been brought

Receipts may be stamped within three months after date, on payment of duty, and 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. penalty;

to the said office within the space of twenty-one days from the date thereof; but the said commissioners, or any of their officers, but none to be stamped unless the duty be paid and they are brought to be stamped within the limited time. shall not on any pretence whatever, except as hereinafter directed, stamp any vellum, parchment, or paper, upon which any receipt or discharge for any legacy, or part of legacy, or any residue of any personal estate, or any part thereof, shall be written or signed with the said new stamps, or any of them, unless the duty for the same shall be paid, and such receipt or discharge shall be produced to be so stamped in manner aforesaid, within the times and in the manner hereinbefore respectively limited and appointed." (s)

\* Sect. 30. "If it shall appear to the satisfaction of the said commissioners of stamp duties, upon oath or affirmation to be administered by a justice of the peace, or master or masters extraordinary in chancery, which oath or affirmation such person or persons are hereby empowered to administer, that less duty has been paid for any legacy, or residue, or part of residue, than ought to have been paid for the same, by mistake, without any intention to defraud; and if application shall be made to the said commissioners to rectify such mistake, and accept the duty really due before any suit shall be instituted concerning the same, and within three calendar months after payment of the money actually paid instead of the just duty, it shall be lawful for the said commissioners to accept the difference between the

(s) But now, by stat. 48 Geo. 3, c. 149, 48 Geo. 3, c. 149, s. 44: Commissioners may stamp receipts for legacies, after three months from the date on payment of duty and penalty; and remit penalty (within twenty-one days), if signed out of Great Britain. s. 44, "in all cases not provided for by the preceding clause, where any receipt or discharge given for any legacy, or for the residue, or any share of the residue, of any personal estate, which shall have been given by will or other testamentary instrument, or have devolved to any person or persons upon intestacy, shall be brought to the head office, to be stamped after the expiration of three calendar months from the date thereof, it shall be lawful for the said commissioners to cause the same to be duly stamped, for making the same available, on payment of the duty, which shall

be payable in respect thereof, together with the penalty incurred, in consequence of the same not having been brought to be stamped, before the expiration of such three calendar months; and where any such receipt or discharge shall have been signed out of Great Britain, if the same shall be brought to be stamped, within twenty-one days after its being received in Great Britain, it shall be lawful for the said commissioners to remit any penalty that may have been incurred thereon, and to cause the same to be duly stamped, on payment of the duty payable in respect thereof; anything contained in any former act or acts to the contrary notwithstanding."

money paid and the just duty, together with the sum of ten pounds *per centum* on such difference by way of penalty in full for the just duty, and which shall be in discharge of all penalties incurred by non-payment of such duty, and to cause an acknowledgment of the payment of the just duty to be written on the receipt or discharge given for such legacy or residue or part of residue, and to be subscribed by the proper officer, and also to cause such receipt or discharge to be properly stamped, if necessary, in the same manner as would have been done if the just duty had been originally paid."

Sect. 31. "Provided always, and be it further enacted, \* That the party or parties paying or satisfying any legacy, or any residue of any personal estate, or any part of such residue, or receiving the same, contrary to the provisions of this act, who shall, within the space of twelve calendar months after the offence committed, discover the other party or parties offending therein, so that such party or parties so discovered be thereupon convicted, such person so discovering shall be indemnified and discharged from all penalties incurred for any offence against this act."

Persons paying or receiving money contrary to this act, indemnified on discovering the other offender.

Sect. 32. There has already been occasion to state *verbatim* the earlier part of this section, (t) by which it is provided that if by reason of the infancy, or absence beyond seas, of the legatees, legacies cannot be properly paid, the money may be paid into the bank of England.

If by infancy or absence legacies cannot be paid, the money may be paid into the bank.

The statute proceeds to provide, that if it shall afterwards appear that such money has been improperly paid into the bank, the court of chancery upon petition, in a summary way, may dispose thereof, in such manner, as justice shall require. And if it shall appear that the duty paid in respect of any such sum of money was more than ought to have been paid, the person who shall have paid such duty may apply to the commissioners of stamps to repay such excess, and they may repay such excess; and if the duty paid appear to be less than the duty which ought to have been paid, the person who paid such money, upon payment of the full duty to the said commissioners, in such manner as the same ought to be paid, with such penalties, if any, as ought to be paid in respect thereof, may apply to the court of chancery,

Provisions in case such money be improperly paid in; provisions in case of payment of too much or too little duty.

(t) See *ante*, 1407.

in a summary way, for the repayment of the further sum paid to the said commissioners for such duty, out of the money in the bank so paid in by such person, which payment the said court is authorized to order.

Sect. 33. "If at the end of two years after the death of any person deceased, it shall appear to the satisfaction of the said commissioners of stamp duties, that it will require \*time to collect the debts or effects of such person then outstanding, or that from circumstances it will be difficult to ascertain or adjust the amount of the clear residue of the personal estate of such person liable to duty, and the parties interested therein shall be desirous of compounding for the duty thereon, it shall be lawful for such parties respectively, with the consent of the commissioners of stamp duties, to make application to the court of exchequer at Westminster, if the deceased person resided in England or elsewhere, except in Scotland, and to the court of exchequer in Scotland, if the deceased resided in Scotland, for leave to compound such duty, stating upon oath the particulars of the personal estate for which such composition shall be proposed to be made, by affidavit to be filed in the said court, and declaring at the same time upon oath, whether any other property of the deceased then outstanding, besides the property for which such composition shall be proposed to be made, hath come to the knowledge of the said parties, or any of them, and the nature thereof, and the circumstances attending the same; and in such case it shall be lawful for the said court of exchequer in England or Scotland, as the case may be, to appoint a proper person to set a value on the personal estate, or such part thereof, for which no duty shall have been charged, and which shall be specified in such affidavit as the property for which such composition shall be desired, and to adjust and settle the duty, which justly and equitably under all circumstances, ought to be paid in respect of such personal estate so specified, and thereupon it shall be lawful for the said commissioners, and, they are hereby required, if the said court of exchequer to which such application shall be made shall confirm the said adjustment and settlement, and order the duty to be accepted accordingly, and by authority of such order to accept payment of the sum so adjusted and settled, in full discharge of the duty on

If it shall appear to the commissioners for stamps at the end of two years after the death of any person, that it will require time to collect the effects, or be difficult to ascertain the residue of the personal estate, the duty may be compounded for:

so much of such personal estate as shall be so specified, and according to such order, and to enter the same in their books accordingly, and to grant certificates thereof, expressing the \* receipt of such duty by way of composition under such order; and every such person to whom such certificate shall be granted, and every future representative of the same estate, and all persons entitled to the benefit of the property, for which such composition shall be so paid, shall be discharged from any further payment of duty on the same; and in all future payments of such property, it shall be lawful for the persons having or taking the burden of the execution of any will or testamentary instrument disposing such property or the administration thereof, to pay, apply, and dispose of the same, and for all persons entitled to the benefit thereof to receive the same, without having the receipts and discharges in writing, hereby required to be given and taken for the same, stamped as hereinbefore directed; provided such receipts or discharges shall express the same to be given under the authority of such composition as aforesaid, and not liable to duty. Provided always nevertheless, That the duty shall be charged and paid upon all and every part of the personal estate of such person deceased, other than that which shall be specified in such affidavit as aforesaid, and included in the valuation in which such composition shall have been made as aforesaid, and for which the said court of exchequer shall allow and order such composition to be taken as aforesaid in the same manner as if no such composition had been made; and all and every person and persons shall be liable to all the like penalties and forfeitures for not duly paying the duty for such personal estate not compounded for, and subject to the like rules, methods, and directions for charging such duty, as such person and persons respectively would be liable to if such composition had not been made."

duty to be paid on any part of personal estates not included in the composition.

Sect. 34. "And be it further enacted, That if at any time after payment of duty on any legacy, or residue, or part of residue, of the personal estate of any person deceased, any debt shall be recovered against the estate of such deceased person, or any loss shall happen, by reason whereof, or for any other just cause, any legatee or other person, by whom any legacy or part of legacy, or any residue of any personal \*estate hath been received or retained, shall be obliged to refund the same, or any part thereof, then in every such case it

If any legacy be refunded, the duty to be repaid.

shall be lawful for the said commissioners of stamp duties, and they are hereby required, on due proof made on oath as aforesaid, to their satisfaction, of the amount of such sums refunded, and that by reason thereof there hath been an over-payment of duty, to settle and adjust the amount of such over-payment, and to repay the same out of the money in their hands, arising from the duties by this act imposed, or to allow the same in future payments as the case may permit or require."

**Executors previous to retaining their legacies to transmit the particulars with the duty offered, to the commissioners of stamps, who shall charge the same agreeable to this act.**

Sect. 35. "Whenever any person or persons having or taking the burden of the execution of any will or testamentary instrument, or the administration of any personal estate as aforesaid, shall be entitled to any legacy, or the residue, or any part of the residue, of the personal estate of any testator, testatrix, or intestate, such person shall be chargeable with the duty whenever he, she, or they shall be entitled, in the due course of administration, to retain to his, her, or their own use, any part of the said estate, in satisfaction of such legacy, or residue, or any part thereof; and every such person, before any such retainer, shall transmit to the said commissioners of stamp duties or their officers, a note containing the particulars of such legacy, residue, or part of residue, intended to be retained, and the amount or value thereof, and the duty which such person or persons shall offer to pay thereon, and the said commissioners shall charge and assess the duty thereon, in such manner as the duty shall be chargeable thereon by virtue of the provisions of this act contained, and such duty shall be paid accordingly; and on payment of the said duty, the said receiver general of the said duty, or officer appointed to receive the same, shall, at the foot of a duplicate of the said assessment duly stamped, in such manner as the said commissioners shall direct for such purpose, give a receipt for such duty in such form of words as the said commissioners shall direct, which receipt shall be a discharge for the duty expressed \*therein; and in case any such person or persons shall neglect to pay such duty as aforesaid, within fourteen days after the same ought to have been paid as aforesaid, every such person or persons shall forfeit and pay treble the value of the duty which ought to have been paid."

**Penalty for neglect of payment of duty for fourteen days.**

**If administration be**

Sect. 37. "The authority under or by color of which any person shall have administered the estate or effects of

any person deceased, or any part thereof, shall be void, or be repealed, or declared void, and such person shall before the avoidance, repeal, or declaration of avoidance, have paid any duty hereby imposed, or any duty imposed by any of the said former acts, which shall not be allowed to such person out of the estate or effects of such deceased person, by reason that the same duty was not really due or payable, the money paid for such duty shall, on proof thereof to the satisfaction of the said commissioners of stamp duties, be repaid to the person or persons who shall have paid the same, or his, her, or their representatives, by the said commissioners, out of any moneys in their hands arising from the duties imposed by this act, or the said former acts; but in case such duty ought to have been paid by the rightful executor or executors, administrator or administrators, of such deceased person, then and in such case, the payment of such duty shall be valid and effectual, notwithstanding such avoidance, repeal, or declaration of avoidance as aforesaid; and no such person shall, by reason of the avoidance, repeal, or declaration of avoidance of such authority, be sued, molested, or troubled for or in respect of such payment; but all such payments, in respect of the said duty, shall be allowed in account with such rightful executor or executors, administrator or administrators, and the same shall be deemed payments in the due course of administration, as fully and effectually as if such payments had been made by rightful executors or administrators; any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding." (u)

\* The statute 44 Geo. 3, c. 98, after reciting that the several duties therein mentioned are become very numerous, intricate, and complicated, and it will naturally contribute

44 Geo. 3,  
c. 98.

(u) By an instrument purporting to be the will of S. deceased, the whole of S.'s personalty, amounting in the net to 12,748*l.*, was bequeathed to I., a stranger in blood, who was executor. I. took out probate, and paid the duty of ten per cent. on the whole net. Afterwards T., the next of kin to S., disputed the will, on the ground that S. was not of disposing mind. I. paid 6,000*l.* to T., and consented that the will should be revoked, and administration taken out by T., who, in consideration thereof, released to I. her claim on the 12,748*l.* T., from her nearness of blood, was liable to a duty of less than ten per cent. It was held that, under the enactments of this section, I. was entitled to a return of duty, not only on the 6,000*l.*, but also on the remaining 6,748*l.*, and that the duty on the whole 12,748*l.* was to be accounted for between T. and the commissioners of stamps, as duty charged on T., at the lower rate. Reg. v. The Commissioners of Stamps, 6 Q. B. 657.



to the public benefit to consolidate and simplify the same, enacts, "That from and after the 10th of October, 1804, all and singular the duties, &c. (aforesaid) shall cease and determine," and imposes the several duties contained in the schedule in lieu thereof.

Legacies charged upon or payment out of the produce of real estate were not subject to the payment of duty until the 45 Geo. 3, c. 28. By that statute duties are imposed "Upon all legacies specific or pecuniary, or of any other description, whether the same be charged upon or payable out of *any real* or personal estate, and upon all residues or shares of personal estate left by any will or testamentary instrument, or divided by force of the statute of distributions, or the custom of any province or place, and upon moneys, or residues, or shares of moneys *arising from the sale of real estates*, by any will or testamentary instrument directed to be sold." And by section 4 it is enacted, "That every gift by any will or testamentary instrument of any person dying after the passing of this act, which, by virtue of any such will or testamentary instrument, shall have effect or be satisfied out of the personal estate of such person so dying, \* or out of any personal estate which such persons shall have power to dispose of, as he or she shall think fit, or which shall have been charged upon or made payable out of any real estate, (y) or be directed to be satisfied out of any moneys to arise by the sale of any real estate of the person so dying, or which such person may have the power to dispose of, whether the same shall be given by way of annuity, or in any other form, shall be deemed and taken to be a legacy within the true intent and meaning of this act. Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to the charging with the duties by this act granted any specific sum or sums of money, or any share or proportion thereof charged by any marriage settlement or deed or deeds upon any real estate, in any case in which any such specific sum or sums, or share of proportion thereof, shall be appointed or apportioned by any will

45 Geo. 3,  
c. 28.

Legacies,  
&c. out of  
real estate  
subject to  
duties. (v)

What shall  
be deemed  
a legacy  
under this  
act. (x)

Acts shall  
not extend  
to appoint-  
ments by  
will under  
settle-  
ments, &c.

(v) See, also, stat. 8 & 9 Vict. c. 76, s. 4, *post*, 1585.

(y) See Atty. Gen. v. Pickard, *post*, 1626; Atty. Gen. v. Lord Hertford, *post*,

(z) See stat. 8 & 9 Vict. c. 76, s. 4, 1627. *post*, 1586.

or testamentary instrument under any power given for that purpose by any such marriage settlement or deed or deeds.”

Sect. 5. “The duties hereby granted upon legacies, or charged upon or made payable out of any real estate, or out of any moneys to arise by the sale of any real estate, or upon residues, or parts or shares of residues of any such moneys, shall be accounted for, answered, and paid by the trustee or trustees to whom the real estate shall be devised, out of which the legacy or legacies, or share or shares, of any money arising out of the sale or mortgage, or other disposition of such real estate, shall be to be paid or satisfied; or if there shall be no trustees, then by the person or persons (z) entitled to such real estate, subject to any such legacy; or by the person or persons empowered or required to pay or satisfy any such legacy; and the said duties shall be retained (a) by the person paying or satisfying any such legacy or share of money, in like manner, and according to \* such rules and regulations, and under and subject to such penalties, as far as the same can be made applicable, as are obtained in an act passed in the thirty-sixth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, *An act for repealing certain duties on legacies and shares of personal estates, and for granting other duties thereon in certain cases.*”

Duties on legacies charged on real estates shall be paid by the trustees, or the persons entitled to such estate, and retained as under 36 Geo. 3, c. 52.

The statute 48 Geo. 3, c. 149, repealing the duties granted by the last act (except arrears, which are to be recoverable 48 Geo. 3, c. 149, by the same ways and means, &c. in all respects, as if this act had not been made), enacts by sect. 2, “That from and after the 10th of October, 1808, there shall be raised, levied, and paid,” the several duties specified in the schedule; in which schedule, part 3, is contained the following: “For every legacy, &c. given by any will or testamentary instrument of any person who died before or upon the 5th of April, 1805, out of his or her personal or movable estate, and which shall be paid, delivered, retained, satisfied, or discharged, after the 10th October, 1808,” the several duties, after the rates therein specified. And “for every legacy, &c. &c. of any person who shall have died after the 5th of April, 1805, either out of his or her personal or

(z) See the Atty. Gen. v. Jackson, *post*, 1645. (a) See Hales v. Freeman, *post*, 1646.

movable estate, or out of or charged upon his or her real or heritable estate, or out of any moneys to arise by the sale, mortgage, or other disposition of his or her real or heritable estate, or any part thereof, and which shall be paid, delivered, retained, satisfied, or discharged after the 10th day of October, 1808," the several other duties thereafter specified.

This statute was succeeded by the latest stamp act, 55 Geo. 3, c. 184, which repeals the last mentioned duties, with the same exception of arrears, and imposes the new duties above specified at large. (b)

A fuller and more explicit definition of a legacy is contained \*in the later statute of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 76, s. 4, by which, after reciting that "under or by virtue of the said several recited acts (55 Geo. 3, c. 184, 5 & 6 Vict. c. 82, 8 & 9 Vict. c. 2), certain duties have been granted and are now payable in Great Britain and Ireland respectively upon legacies, and doubts have been entertained whether certain gifts by will or testamentary instrument are legacies liable to the said duties, and it is expedient to remove such doubts," it is enacted, "that from and after the passing of this act, every gift by any will or testamentary instrument of any person, which by virtue of any such will or testamentary instrument is or shall be payable, or shall have effect or be satisfied out of the personal or movable estate or effects of such person, or out of any personal or movable estate or effects which such person hath had or shall have had power to dispose of, or which gift is or shall be payable, or shall have effect or be satisfied out of, or is or shall be charged or rendered a burden upon the real or heritable estate, of such person, or any real or heritable estate, or the rents or profits thereof, which such person hath had or shall have had any right or power to charge, burden, or affect with the payment of money, or out of or upon any moneys to arise by the sale, burden, mortgage, or other disposition of any such real or heritable estate or any part thereof, whether such gift shall be by way of annuity or in any other form, and also every gift which shall have effect as a donation *mortis causa* shall be deemed a legacy within the true intent and meaning of all the several acts granting or relating to duties on legacies in Great Britain and Ireland respectively, and

What gifts  
are to be  
deemed  
legacies.  
8 & 9 Vict.  
c. 76, s. 4.

(b) *Ante*, 1550.

shall be subject and liable to the said duties accordingly. Provided always, that no sum of money, which by any marriage settlement is or shall be subjected to any limited power of appointment to or for the benefit of any person or persons therein specially named or described as the object or objects of such power, or to or for the benefit of the issue of any such person or persons, shall be liable to the said duties or legacies under the will in which such sum is or \* shall be appointed or apportioned in exercise of such limited power."

By stat. 16 & 17 Vict. c. 51 (An act for granting to her majesty duties on succession to property, and for altering certain provisions of the acts charging duties on legacies and shares of personal estates), it is enacted by sect. 1, that "in the construction and for the purposes of this act,

16 & 17  
Vict. c. 51  
(succession  
duty act).

The term 'real property' shall include all freehold, copyhold, customary, leasehold, and other hereditaments, and heritable property, whether corporeal or incorporeal, in Great Britain and Ireland, except money secured on heritable property in Scotland, and all estates in any such hereditaments:

Interpreta-  
tion of cer-  
tain terms  
in this act:

The term 'personal property' shall not include leaseholds, but shall include money payable under any engagement, and money secured on heritable property in Scotland, and all other property not comprised in the preceding definition of real property:

The term 'property' alone shall include real property and personal property:

The term 'succession' shall denote any property chargeable with duty under this act:

The term 'trustee' shall include an executor and administrator, and any person having or taking on himself the administration of property affected by any express or implied trust:

The term 'person' shall include a body corporate, company, and society:

The term 'legacy duty acts' shall denote the acts now in force for charging duties on legacies and shares of the personal estates of deceased persons."

Sect. 2. "Every past or future disposition of property, by reason (c) whereof any person has or shall become bene- What dis-  
ficially entitled to any property or the income thereof upon position  
and devo-

(c) As to the construction of these words, see *Wilcox v. Smith*, 4 Drew. 40.

lutions of  
property  
shall con-  
fer succe-  
ssions:

definitions  
of the  
terms  
"succe-  
ssor,"  
"prede-  
cessor."

\* the death of any person dying after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, either immediately or after any interval, either certainly or contingently, (*d*) and either originally or by way of substitutive limitation and every devolution by law of any beneficial interest in property, or the income thereof, upon the death of any person dying after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, to any other person in possession or expectancy, shall be deemed to have conferred or to confer on the person entitled by reason of any such disposition or devolution a 'succession;' (*e*) and the term 'successor' shall denote the person so entitled; and the term 'predecessor' (*f*) shall denote settlor, disposer, testator, obligor, ancestor, or other person from whom, the interest of the successor is or shall be derived." (*g*)

Sect. 3. "Where any person shall, at or after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, have any property vested in them jointly, by any title not conferring on them a succession, any beneficial interest in such property accruing to any of them by survivorship shall be deemed to be a succession; and every person to whom any such interest shall accrue shall be deemed to be the successor; and the person upon whose death such accruer shall take place shall be deemed to be the predecessor; and where any persons after the time appointed for the commencement of this act shall take any succession jointly, they shall pay the duty, if \* any, chargeable thereon by this act in proportion to their respective interests in the succession; and any beneficial interest in such succession accruing to any of them by survivorship shall be deemed to be a new succession, derived from the predecessor from whom the joint title shall have been derived."

(*d*) As to what person may properly be said to be contingently entitled after an interval, see *Atty. Gen. v. Gell*, 3 H. & C. 615.

(*e*) As to what shall constitute a succession, see *Atty. Gen. v. Yelverton*, 7 H. & N. 306; *Atty. Gen. v. Gardner*, 1 H. & C. 639.

(*f*) As to what constitutes a predecessor, see *In re Jenkinson*, 24 Beav. 64; *Atty. Gen. v. Baker*, 4 H. & N. 19; *In re Ramsay's Settlement*, 30 Beav. 75; *Atty.*

*Gen. v. Abdy*, 1 H. & C. 266; *Lord Braybrook v. Atty. Gen.* 9 H. L. Cas. 150; *Atty. Gen. v. Floyer*, 9 H. L. Cas. 477; *Atty. Gen. v. Smythe*, 9 H. L. Cas. 497; *Lord Saltoun v. Lord Advocate*, 3 Macq. H. of L. 659; *In re De Lancey*, L. R. 4 Ex. 345; *Atty. Gen. v. Cecil*, L. R. 5 Ex. 263; *Atty. Gen. v. Littledale*, L. R. 5 Ex. 275.

(*g*) The general plan of the act is expounded by Lord Justice Turner in *Oldfield v. Preston*, 3 De G., F. & J. 416.

Sect. 4. "Where any person shall have a general power of appointment, under any disposition of property taking effect upon the death of any person dying after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, over property, he shall, in the event of his making any appointment thereunder, be deemed to be entitled, at the time of his exercising such power, to the property or interest thereby appointed as a succession derived from the donor of the power; and where any person shall have a limited power of appointment, under a disposition taking effect, upon any such death, over property, any person taking any property by the exercise of such power shall be deemed to take the same as a succession derived from the person creating the power as predecessor." (h)

General powers of appointment to confer successions:

\* Sect. 5. "Where any property shall, at or after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, be subject to any charge, estate, or interest, determinable by the death of any person, or at any period ascertainable only by reference to death, the increase of benefit accruing to any person or persons upon the extinction or determination of such charge, estate, or interest, shall be deemed to be a succession accruing to the person, or the persons, if more than one, then entitled beneficially to the property or the income thereof, according to his or their respective estates or interests therein, or beneficial enjoyment thereof; and the person or persons from whom such successor or successors respectively shall have derived title

Extinction of determinable charges to confer successions.

(h) This section does not restrict the operation of the duty as regards appointments to cases where the powers are created by wills taking effect, or by settlements made, after the commencement of the act. In *re Lovelace*, 4 De G. & J. 340. The rule settled by this case, together with *Re Wallop's case*, 1 De G., J. & Sm. 656, is that where a general power is given and exercised, the appointee is a person taking in succession to the appointor, and the appointor is also a successor to the donor of the power. 2 Hemm. & M. 450, per Wood V. C. But see, *contra*, In *re Barker*, 7 H. & N. 109, where it appears to have been held that the appointee was liable as on a succession derived from the

donor of the power. But see the Atty. Gen. v. Upton, L. R. 1 Ex. 224. Where A., having a general power of appointment subject to a life interest in his sister B., appointed by will to C. for life, with remainder to such persons as B. should appoint; and A. died, and then B. died in C.'s lifetime having appointed to strangers; and then C. died; it was held that B.'s appointees were liable to 10l. per cent. legacy duty, but that the fund was not liable to succession duty in respect of the succession to A., by reason of the exemption in the 14th section, having regard to the principle indicated by the 16th section. In *re Chapman's Trusts*, 2 Hemm. & M. 447.

[1590]

to the property so charged shall be deemed to be the predecessor or predecessors, as the case may be."

Persons now beneficially entitled to real property subject to leases for life, not liable to duty.

Sect. 6. "Provided, that no person entitled, at the time appointed for the commencement of this act, to the immediate reversion in any real property expectant upon the determination of any lease for life or for years determinable on life, shall be chargeable with duty in respect of such determination, in the event of the same occurring in his lifetime."

Dispositions accompanied by the reservation of a benefit to the grantor, &c. to confer successions.

Sect. 7. "Where any disposition of property, not being a *bond fide* sale, and not conferring an interest expectant on death on the person in whose favor the same shall be made, shall be accompanied by the reservation or assurance of or contract for any benefit to the grantor, or any other person, for any term of life or for any period ascertainable only by reference to death, such disposition shall be deemed to confer at the time appointed for the determination of such benefit an increase of beneficial interest in such property, as a succession equal in annual value to the yearly amount or yearly value of the benefit so reserved, assured, or contracted for, on the person in whose favor such disposition shall be made."

Dispositions to take effect at periods depending on death, or made for evading duty, to confer successions.

Sect. 8. "Where any disposition of property shall be made to take effect at a period ascertainable only by reference to \* the date of the death of any person dying after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, such disposition shall be deemed to confer a succession on the person in whose favor the same shall be made; and where any disposition of property shall purport to take effect presently or under such circumstances as not to confer a succession, but by the effect or in consequence of any engagement, secret trust, or arrangement capable of being enforced in a court of law or equity, the beneficial ownership of such property shall not *bond fide* pass according to such disposition, but shall in fact devolve to any person on death, or at some period ascertainable only by reference to death, then such last mentioned person shall be deemed to acquire the property so passing as a succession derived from the person making the disposition as the predecessor; and where any court of competent jurisdiction shall

declare any disposition to have been fraudulent and made for the purpose of evading the duty imposed by this act, it shall be lawful for such court to declare a succession to have been conferred on such person at such time and to such an extent as such court shall think just ; and such last mentioned person shall be deemed to have taken a succession accordingly derived from the person making such disposition as predecessor."

Sect. 9. "The duties hereinafter imposed shall be considered as stamp duties, and shall be under the care and management of the commissioners of inland revenue, hereinafter called 'The Commissioners;' who, by themselves and their officers, shall have the same powers and authorities for the collection, recovery, and management thereof, as are by an act passed in the session holden in the twelfth and thirteenth years of the reign of her present majesty, chapter one, or by any other act or acts, vested in them for the collection, recovery, and management of any stamp duties ; and shall provide proper stamps for denoting the rate *per centum* of the duties payable under this act ; and shall have all other powers \*and authorities requisite for carrying this act into execution."

Duties to be under the care and management of the commissioners of inland revenue.

Sect. 10. "There shall be levied and paid to her majesty in respect of every such succession as aforesaid, according to the value thereof, the following duties (that is to say):

Duties on successions.

Where the successor shall be the lineal issue or lineal ancestor of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of one pound *per centum* upon such value :

Where the successor shall be a brother or sister, or a descendant of a brother or sister of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of three pounds *per centum* upon such value :

Where the successor shall be a brother or sister of the father or mother, or a descendant of a brother or sister of the father or mother of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of five pounds *per centum* upon such value :

Where the successor shall be a brother or sister of the grandfather or grandmother, or a descendant of the brother or sister of the grandfather or grandmother of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of six pounds *per centum* upon such value :

Where the successor shall be in any other degree of collateral



consanguinity to the predecessor than is hereinbefore described, or shall be a stranger in blood to him, a duty at the rate of ten pounds *per centum* upon such value."

**Sect. 11.** "Where any person chargeable with duty under this act in respect of any succession, or chargeable with duty under the legacy duty acts in respect of any legacy bequeathed to him or her by a testator dying after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, or in respect of the personal estate of any person dying after the same period, shall have been married to any wife or husband of nearer consanguinity than himself or herself to the predecessor, testator, or deceased person, then the person taking such succession, legacy, or personal estate shall pay in respect thereof the same rate of duty only as such his or her wife or \* husband would have been chargeable with if she or he had taken the same."

Provision as to married persons chargeable with succession or legacy duties.

**Sect. 12.** "Where any person shall take a succession under a disposition made by himself, then, if at the date of such disposition he shall have been entitled to the property comprised in the succession expectantly on the death of any person dying after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, and such person shall have died during the continuance of such disposition, he shall be chargeable with duty on his succession, at the same rate as he would have been chargeable with if no such disposition had been made; but a successor shall not in any other case be chargeable with duty upon a succession taken under a disposition made by himself, and no person shall be chargeable with duty upon the extinction or determination of any charge, estate, or interest created by himself, unless at the date of the creation thereof he shall have been entitled to the property subjected thereto expectantly on the death of some person dying after the time appointed for the commencement of this act." (i)

What duties payable when the successor is also the predecessor.

**Sect. 13.** "Where the successor shall derive his succession from more predecessors than one, and the proportional interest derived from each of them shall not be distinguishable, it shall be lawful for the commissioners to

Provision as to joint predecessors.

(i) See, as to the construction of this section, *Atty. Gen. v. Sibthorp*, 3 H. & N. 424; *Atty. Gen. v. Braybrook*, 5 H. & N. 488; 9 H. L. Cas. 450; *Atty. Gen. v. Gardner*, 1 H. & C. 639; *Atty. Gen. v. Cecil*, L. R. 5 Ex. 263.

agree with the successor as to the duty payable; but if no such agreement shall be made, the successor shall be deemed to have derived his succession in equal proportions from each predecessor, and shall be chargeable with duty accordingly." (k)

Sect. 14. "Where the interest of any successor in any personal property shall, before he shall have become entitled thereto in possession, have passed by reason of death to any other successor or successors, then one duty only shall be \*paid in respect of such interest, and shall be due from the successor who shall first become entitled thereto in possession; but such duty shall be at the highest rate which, if every such successor had been subject to duty, would have been payable by any one of them."

Duty on transmitted successions.

Sect. 15. "Where, at the time appointed for the commencement of this act, any reversionary property expectant on death shall be vested, by alienation or other derivative title, in any person other than the person who shall have been originally entitled thereto under any such disposition or devolution as is mentioned in the second section of this act, then the person in whom such property shall be so vested shall be chargeable with duty in respect thereof as a succession at the same time and at the same rate as the person so originally entitled would have been chargeable with if no such alienation had been made or derivative title created; and where, after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, any succession shall, before the successor shall have become entitled thereto or to the income thereof in possession, have become vested by alienation or by any title not conferring a new succession in any other person, then the duty payable in respect thereof shall be paid at the same rate and time as the same would have been payable if no such alienation had been made or derivative title created; and where the title to any succession shall be accelerated by the surrender or extinction of any prior interests, then the duty thereon shall be payable at the same time and in the same manner as such duty would have been payable if no such acceleration had taken place." (l)

Duties payable in respect of transferred interests.

(k) As to the construction of this section, see *Atty. Gen. v. Baker*, 4 H. & N. 19.

(l) As to the construction of this sec-

tion, see *Atty. Gen. v. Gardner*, 1 H. & C. 639; *Atty. Gen. v. Rushton*, 2 H. & C. 812; *Atty. Gen. v. Cecil*, L. R. 5 Ex. 263; *Atty. Gen. v. Littledale*, L. R. 5 Ex. 275.

**Sect. 16.** "Where property shall become subject to a trust for any charitable or public purposes, under any past or future disposition, which, if made in favor of an individual, would confer on him a succession, there shall be payable in \* respect of such property, upon its becoming subject to such trusts, a duty at the rate of ten pounds *per centum* upon the amount or principal value of such property; and it shall be lawful for the trustee of any such property to raise the amount of any duty due in respect thereof, with all reasonable expenses, upon the security of the charity property, at interest, with power for him to give effectual discharges for the money so raised."

Succession  
subject to  
trusts for  
charitable  
or public  
purposes  
chargeable  
with duty.

**Sect. 17.** "No policy of insurance on the life of any person shall create the relation of predecessor and successor between the insurers and the assured, or between the insurers and any assignee of the assured, and no bond or contract made by any person *bonâ fide* for valuable consideration in money or money's worth, for the payment of money or money's worth after the death of any other person, shall create the relation of predecessor and successor between the person making such bond or contract and the person to or with whom the same shall be made; but any disposition or devolution of the moneys payable under such policy, bond, or contract, if otherwise such as in itself to create a succession within the provisions of this act, shall be deemed to confer a succession." (m)

Provisions  
for life  
policies  
and cer-  
tain *post  
obit* bonds.

**Sect. 18.** "Where the whole succession or successions derived from the same predecessor, and passing upon any death to any person or persons, shall not amount in money or principal value to the sum of one hundred pounds, no duty shall be payable under this act in respect thereof or of any portion thereof; and no duty shall be payable under this act upon any succession, which, as estimated according to the provisions of this act, shall be of less value than twenty pounds in the whole, or upon any moneys applied to the payment \* of the duty on any succession according to any trust for that purpose, or by any per-

Exemptions.

(m) This section is not confined to cases where the relation of debtor and creditor exist between the parties, but extends to every case of a contract *bonâ fide* for valuable consideration in money or money's worth for the payment of money or money's worth after the death of another person. *Oldfield v. Preston*, 3 De G., F. & J. 398.

son in respect of a succession, who, if the same were a legacy bequeathed to him by the predecessor, would be exempted (n) from the payment of duty in respect thereof under the legacy duty acts; and no person shall be charged with duty under this act in respect of any interest surrendered by him or extinguished before the time appointed for the commencement of this act; and no person charged with the duties on legacies and shares of personal estate under the legacy duty acts, in respect of any property subject to such duties, shall be charged also with the duty granted by this act in respect of the same acquisition of the same property." (o)

Sect. 19. "No legatee or other person shall, after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, be chargeable under the legacy acts with duty, not then already due, in respect of any leasehold hereditaments of any testator or deceased person, as belonging to the personal estate of the testator or deceased."

Leasehold estates not to be charged with legacy duty as personal estate.

Sect. 20. "The duty imposed by this act shall be paid at the time when the successor or any person in his right or on his behalf, shall become entitled in possession to his succession, or to the receipt of the income and profits thereof; except that if there shall be any prior charge, estate, or interest, not created by the successor himself, upon or in the succession, by reason whereof the successor shall not be presently entitled to the full enjoyment or value thereof, the duty in respect of the increased value accruing upon the determination of such charge, estate or interest shall, if not previously paid, compounded for, or commuted, be paid at \* the time of such determination; and except that in case of an annuity or property hereby made chargeable as an annuity, the duties shall be paid by such instalments as are hereinafter directed or referred to; provided that no duty shall be payable upon the determination of any lease purporting at the

Duties to be paid on the successor becoming entitled in possession, but in the case of outstanding interests, on the determination thereof.

(n) The exemptions here referred to are the special exemptions given by the legacy duty acts, and the section does not extend to cases where no duty was imposed by those acts; in effect, the word "exempted" must be construed in its legal sense, and not as meaning "free

from." *Atty. Gen. v. Fitzjohn*, 2 H. & N. 465; *In re Wallop's Trusts*, 1 De G., J. & Sm. 656, 672.

(o) See *Earl Howe v. Earl of Lichfield*, L. R. 1 Eq. 641; *Atty. Gen. v. Littledale*, L. R. 5 Ex. 275.

date thereof to be a lease at rack-rent, in respect of the increase accruing to the successor upon such determination."

Sect. 21. "The interest of every successor, except as herein provided, in real property, shall be considered to be of the value of an annuity equal to the annual value of such property, (*p*) after making such allowances as are hereinafter directed, and payable from the date of his becoming entitled thereto in possession, or to the receipt of the income or profits thereof during the residue of his life, or for any less period during which he shall be entitled thereto; and every such annuity, for the purposes of this act, shall be valued according to the tables in the schedule annexed to this act; and the duty chargeable thereon shall be paid by eight equal half-yearly instalments, the first of such instalments to be paid at the expiration of twelve months next after the successor shall have become entitled to the beneficial enjoyment of the real property in respect whereof the same shall be payable, and the seven following instalments at half-yearly intervals of six months each, to be computed from the day on which the first instalment shall have become due, provided that if the successor shall die before all such instalments shall have become due, then any instalments not due at his decease shall cease to be payable, except in the case of a successor who shall have been competent to dispose by will of a continuing interest in such property, in which case the instalments unpaid at his death shall be a continuing charge on such interest, in exoneration of his other property, \*and shall be payable by the owner for the time being of such interest." (*q*)

Sect. 22. "In estimating the annual value of lands used for agricultural purposes, houses, buildings, tithes, teinds, rentcharges, and other property yielding or capable of yielding income not of a fluctuating character, an allowance shall be made of all necessary outgoings." (*r*)

(*p*) As to the meaning of the words "annual value of such property," see *Atty. Gen. v. Lord Sefton*, 2 H. & C. 362; 11 H. L. Cas. 257.

(*q*) It has been held that the word "competent" in this section means to refer to the successor's interest in the property, and not to his understanding. *Atty.*

*Gen. v. Hallett*, 2 H. & N. 368. The case is within the exception engrafted on the proviso, notwithstanding the successor becomes competent by his own act after the time of his becoming successor. *Atty. Gen. v. Lord Lilford*, 3 H. & C. 239, *dis-sentiente* Pollock C. B.

(*r*) The successor is not entitled, under

Sect. 23. "Where timber, trees, or wood, not being coppice or underwood, shall be comprised in any succession, the successor shall be chargeable with duty upon his interest Rule as to timber. in the net moneys, after deducting all necessary outgoings for the year, which shall from time to time be received from any sales of such timber, trees, or wood, and shall account for and pay the same yearly; provided that no duty shall be payable on the net moneys received from the sale of timber, trees, or wood in any one year unless such net moneys shall exceed the sum of ten pounds; provided, that if the successor shall be desirous of commuting the duty, and shall deliver to the commissioners an estimate of the net moneys obtainable by him from the sale of such timber, trees, and wood as may, in a prudent course of management of the property, be felled by such successor during his life, the commissioners, if satisfied with such estimate, shall accept the same and assess the duty accordingly."

Sect. 24. "A successor shall not be chargeable with duty in respect of any advowson or church patronage comprised in his succession, unless the same, or some right of presentation, or some other interest in or out of such advowson, Rule as to advowson. or church patronage, shall be disposed of by or in concert with him for money or money's worth, in which case he shall be chargeable with duty upon the amount or value of the money or money's worth for which the same, or any such presentation or interest, shall be so disposed of at the time of such disposal."

Sect. 25. "Where a successor, entitled to any real property, subject to any lease by reason whereof he shall not be presently entitled to the full enjoyment thereof, shall not have paid duty in respect of the full yearly value of such property, he shall be chargeable with duty upon his interest in any fine or grassum or other consideration which may be received during his life for the renewal of any such lease, or the grant of any reversionary lease of the same property." Rule as to property subject to beneficial leases.

Sect. 26. "The yearly value of any manor, opened mine, or other real property of a fluctuating yearly income shall either be calculated upon the average profits or income Rule as to manors, mines, &c. derived therefrom, after deducting all necessary outgoings, during such a number of preceding years as shall be agreed upon for this section, to a deduction for income tax or the agent's charge for collecting rents. In re Elwes, 3 H. & N. 719.

purpose between the commissioners and the successor, before the first payment of duty on the succession shall have become due ; or if no such period shall be agreed upon, then the principal value of such property shall be ascertained, and the annual value thereof shall be considered to be equal to interest calculated at the rate of three pounds *per centum per annum* on the amount of such principal value."

**Sect. 27.** "Where any body corporate, company, or society shall become entitled, as successors, to any real property, the duty in respect thereof shall be assessed upon the principal value of such property, but shall be payable by such instalments, at such times, and in such manner as the same would be payable if assessed in respect of property devolving on a successor in fee simple ; and it shall be lawful for such body corporate, company, or society, or any trustee thereof, to raise the amount of any duty in due respect of their succession \* upon the security thereof, at interest, with power for them to give effectual discharges for the money so raised."

**Sect. 28.** "If a successor, or any person on his behalf, upon becoming entitled to any copyhold or other real property, shall be subject to any fines, casualties of superiority, compositions, reliefs, or charges incident to the tenure thereof, and due in respect of his succession, he shall be entitled to have a deduction allowed to him of the amount of such fines, casualties, compositions, reliefs, or charges from the assessable value of his interest in such copyhold or other real property."

**Sect. 29.** "The interest of any successor in moneys to arise from the sale of real property under any trust for the sale thereof, so far as the same shall not be chargeable with duty under the legacy duty acts, shall be deemed to be personal property chargeable with duty under this act ; provided that where such moneys shall be subject to any trust for the reinvestment thereof in the purchase of other real property, to which the successor would not be absolutely entitled, such moneys shall be deemed to be real property, and for the purpose of this act each successor's interest therein shall be considered to be of the value of an annuity, payable during his life, or for any less period during which he shall be entitled, equal in amount to the annual produce of the actual trust property at the time of his becoming entitled in possession, whether the same shall then

be the real property subject to the trust or direction for sale, or any property purchased in substitution for it, or any intermediate investment of the produce of the sale of the original property."

Sect. 30. "The interest of any successor in personal property subject to any trust for the investment thereof in the purchase of real property to which the successor would be absolutely entitled shall, so far as the same shall not be chargeable with duty under the legacy duty acts, be chargeable with duty under this act as personal property; and personal property subject to any trust for the investment \* thereof in the purchase of real property to which the successor would not be absolutely entitled shall, so far as the same shall not be chargeable with duty under the legacy duty acts, be chargeable with duty under this act as real property; and for the purposes of this act each successor's interest therein shall be considered to be of the value of an annuity, payable during his life, or for any less period during which he shall be entitled, equal in amount to the annual produce of the actual trust property at the time of his becoming entitled in possession, whether the same shall be the real property directed to be purchased, or any intermediate investment of the personal property directed to be invested in such purchase."

Personal property to be invested in real property, how to be charged.

Sect. 31. "Where it shall be required to calculate, for the purposes either of this act or of the legacy duty acts, the value of any annuity, or of any interest chargeable with duty as an annuity, such value shall, after the time appointed for the commencement of this act, be calculated according to the tables in the schedule annexed to this act, and not according to the tables in the schedule annexed to the act of the thirty-sixth year of the reign of King George the Third, chapter fifty-two, and such annuity or interest shall be chargeable with duty accordingly."

Annuities under this act and the legacy duty acts to be valued according to the tables annexed to this act.

Sect. 32. "The following provisions relating to the assessment and payment of duty on personal estate, and the exemption thereof from duty in certain cases, namely, the eighth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, fourteenth, and twenty-third sections of the said act of the thirty-sixth year of the reign of King George the Third, chapter fifty-two, shall be applicable to the personal property comprised in any succession, and to the assessment and payment of duty thereon, as if such

Provisions as to the assessment of personalty.



personal property were a legacy bequeathed by the predecessor to the successor, and were subject to the said provisions, and as if the tables in the said act referred to were the tables in the schedules annexed to this act."

Sect. 33. "Where the donee of a general power of appointment shall become chargeable with duty in respect of the  
Allowance to donee of general power of appointment. \* property appointed by him under such power, he shall be allowed to deduct from the duty so payable any duty he may have already paid in respect of any limited interest taken by him in such property."

Sect. 34. "In estimating the value of a succession no allowance shall be made in respect of any incumbrance thereon  
What allowance to be made for incumbrances. created or incurred by the successor, not made in execution of a prior special power of appointment, but an allowance shall be made in respect of all other incumbrances, and also in respect of any moneys which the successor may previously to his possession have laid out in the substantial repairs or permanent improvement of real property comprised in his succession; provided that upon any successor becoming entitled to real property subject to any prior principal charge, an allowance shall be made to him in respect only of the yearly sums payable by way of interest or otherwise on such charge as reducing the annual value *pro tanto* of such real property." (s)

Sect. 35. "In estimating the value of a succession no allowance shall be made in respect of any contingent incumbrance thereon; but in the event of such incumbrance taking  
No allowance to be made in respect of contingent incumbrances, unless they take effect. effect as an actual burden on the interest of the successor, he shall be entitled to a return of a proportionate amount of the duty so paid by him in respect of the amount or value of the incumbrance when taking effect."

Sect. 36. "In estimating the value of a succession no allowance shall be made in respect of any contingency upon the  
The duty on successions to be calculated without regard to contingencies. happening of which the property may pass to some other person; but in the event of the same so passing the successor shall be entitled to a return of so much of the duty paid by him as will reduce the same to the amount which would have been payable by him if such duty had been assessed in respect of the actual duration or extent of his interest."

(s) See, as to the construction of this section, *In re Payton*, 7 H. & N. 265.

\*Sect. 37. "Where a successor shall not have obtained the whole of his succession at the time of the duty becoming payable, he shall be chargeable only with duty on the value of the property or benefit from time to time obtained by him; and whenever any duty shall have been paid on account of any succession, and it shall afterwards be proved to the satisfaction of the commissioners that such duty, not being due from the person paying the same, was paid by mistake, or was paid in respect of property which the successor shall have been unable to recover, or from or of which he shall have been evicted or deprived by any superior title, or that for any other reason it ought to be refunded, the commissioners shall thereupon refund the same to the person entitled thereto."

Provision for allowance or return of duty.

Sect. 38. "Where any successor upon taking a succession shall be bound to relinquish or be deprived of any other property, the commissioners shall, upon the computation of the assessable value of his succession, make such an allowance to him as may be just in respect of the value of such property." (t)

Allowance to be made to successor in respect of relinquished property.

Sect. 39. "Where, in the opinion of the commissioners, any succession shall be of such a nature, or so disposed or circumstanced, that the value thereof shall not be fairly ascertainable under any of the preceding directions, or where, from the complication of circumstances affecting the value of a succession, or affecting the assessment or recovery of the duty thereon, the commissioners shall think it expedient to exercise this present authority, it shall be lawful for them to compound the duty payable on the succession upon such terms as they shall think fit, and to give discharges to the successor, upon payment of duty according to such composition; and it shall be lawful for them, in any special cases in which they may think it expedient so to do, to enlarge the time for payment of any duty."

Power for commissioners to compound duties.

\*Sect. 40. "It shall be lawful for the commissioners to receive any duty tendered to them in advance, and to allow discount thereon at the rate of four pounds *per centum per annum*, or at such other rate as may from time to time be directed by the commissioners of her majesty's

Power of commissioners to receive duty in advance.

(t) Atty. Gen. v. Sibthorp, 3 H. & N. exchequer, 5 H. & N. 488; In re Peyton, 424; Lord Braybrooke v. Atty. Gen. 9 H. 7 H. & N. 265. L. Cas. 150; reversing the decision of the

treasury; and no person, by reason of his having made any payment of duty in advance, shall be prejudiced in his right to have any repayment of duty made to him to which he may become entitled under any of the provisions of this act."

**Sect. 41.** "It shall be lawful for the commissioners, in their discretion, upon application made by any person who shall be entitled to a succession in expectancy, to commute the duty presumptively payable in respect of such succession for a certain sum to be presently paid, and for assessing the amount which shall be so payable they shall cause a present value to be set upon such presumptive duty, regard being had to the contingencies affecting the liability to such duty, and the interest of money involved in such calculation being reckoned at the rate for the time being allowed by the commissioners in respect of duties paid in advance; and upon the receipt of such certain sum they shall give discharges to the successor accordingly."

**Sect. 42.** "The duty imposed by this act shall be a first charge on the interest of the successor, and of all persons claiming in his right, in all the real property in respect whereof such duty shall be assessed; and such duty shall also be a first charge on the interest of the successor in the personal property in respect whereof the same shall be assessed, while the same shall remain in the ownership or control of the successor, or of any trustee for him, or of his guardian or committee, or tutor or curator, or of the husband of any wife who shall be the successor; and the said duty shall be a debt due to the crown from the successor, having in the case of real property comprised in any succession, priority over all charges and interests created by him, but such duty shall not charge or affect any other real property of the successor than the property comprised in such succession; \* provided that where any settled real property comprised in a succession shall be subject to any power of sale, exchange, or partition, exercisable with the consent of the successor, or by the successor with the consent of another person, he shall not be disqualified by the charge of duty on his succession from effectually authorizing by his consent the exercise of such power, or exercising any power with proper consent, as the case may be, and in such case the duty shall be charged substitutively upon the successor's interest in all real property acquired in substitution

for the real property before comprised in the succession, and in the meantime upon his interest also in all moneys arising from the exercise of any such power, and in all investments of such moneys."

Sect. 43. "The commissioners shall, at the request of any successor, or any person claiming in his right, accept or cause to be made so many separate assessments of the duty payable in respect of the interest of the successor in any separate properties, or in defined portions of the same property, as shall be reasonably required; and in such cases the respective properties shall be chargeable only with the amount of duty separately assessed in respect thereof; and it shall be lawful also for the commissioners, by their certificates, to be issued in such form as they shall think fit, from time to time to declare that any duties already assessed, whether collectively or distributively, in respect of any succession, shall thenceforth be charged, as to any unpaid instalments, according to any further distribution thereof, upon separate parts only of the property in respect of which such assessment shall have been made, in which case the charge of such duties shall be thenceforth limited according to such further distribution."

Provision  
for the sep-  
arate as-  
sessments  
of proper-  
ties.

Sect. 44. "The following persons, besides the successor, shall be personally accountable to her majesty for the duty payable in respect of any succession, but to the extent only of the property or funds actually received or disposed of by them respectively after the time appointed for the commencement \* of this act; that is to say, every trustee, guardian, committee, tutor, or curator, or husband in whom respectively any property, or the management of any property, subject to such duty, shall be vested, and every person in whom the same shall be vested by alienation or other derivative title at the time of the succession becoming an interest in possession; and all such trustees, guardians, committees, tutors, curators, husbands, and persons shall be authorized to compound or pay in advance or commute any duty, and retain out of the property subject to any such duty the amount thereof, or to raise such amount, and the expenses incident thereto, at interest on the security of such property, with power to give effectual discharges for the same, and such security shall have priority over any charge or incumbrance created by the successor; and in the event of the non-payment of

What per-  
sons ac-  
countable  
for duty.

such duty as aforesaid every person hereby made accountable shall be a debtor to her majesty in the amount of the unpaid duty for which he shall be so accountable."

Sect. 45. "The persons hereby made accountable for the payment of duty in respect of any succession, or some of them, shall, in the case of personal property, at the time of the first payment, delivery, retainer, satisfaction, or other discharge of the same or any part thereof to or for the successor or any person in his right, and in the case of real property when any duty in respect thereof shall first become payable, give notice to the commissioners or to their officers of their liability to such duty, and shall at the same time deliver to the commissioners or to their officers a full and true account of the property for the duty whereon they shall respectively be accountable, and of the value thereof, and of the deductions claimed by them, together with the names of the successor and predecessor, and their relation to each other, and all such other particulars as shall be necessary or proper for enabling the commissioners fully and correctly to ascertain the duties due; and the commissioners, if satisfied with such account and estimate as originally delivered, or with any amendments that may be made therein upon \* their requisition, may assess the succession duty on the footing of such account and estimate; but it shall be lawful for the commissioners, if dissatisfied with such account and estimate, to cause an account and estimate to be taken by any person or persons to be appointed by themselves for that purpose, and to assess the duty on the footing of such last mentioned account and estimate, subject to appeal, as hereinafter provided; and if the duty so assessed shall exceed the duty assessable according to the return made to the commissioners, and with which they shall have been dissatisfied, and if there shall be no appeal against such assessment, then it shall be in the discretion of the commissioners, having regard to the merits of each case, to charge the whole or any part of the expenses incident to the taking of such last mentioned account and estimate on the interest of the successor, in respect whereof the duty shall be due, in increase of such duty, and to recover the same forthwith accordingly; and if there shall be an appeal against such last mentioned assessment, then the payment of such expenses shall be in the discretion of the court of appeal hereinafter appointed."

Sect. 46. "If any person required to give any such notice or deliver such account as aforesaid, shall wilfully neglect to do so at the prescribed period, he shall be liable to pay to her majesty a sum equal to ten pounds *per centum* upon the amount of duty payable by him, or in the case of a succession chargeable with a higher rate of duty than one pound *per centum* upon the value thereof, upon such less sum as such duty, if assessable at the rate of one pound *per centum* upon the value of the succession, would amount to, and a like penalty for every month after the first month during which such neglect shall continue; and if any person liable under this act to pay any duty shall, after such duty shall have been finally ascertained, wilfully neglect to do so within twenty-one days, he shall also be liable to pay to her majesty a sum equal to ten pounds *per centum* upon the amount of duty so unpaid, or upon such less sum as such duty, if \* assessable at the rate of one pound *per centum* on the value of the succession, would amount to, and a like penalty for every month after the first month during which such neglect shall continue."

Penalty on not giving notices of succession.

Sect. 49. "Every person who under the provisions of this act may deliver any account or estimate of the property comprised in any succession shall, if required by the commissioners, produce before them such books and documents in the custody or control of such person, so far as the same relate to such account or estimate, as may be capable of affording any necessary information for the purpose of ascertaining such property and the duty payable thereon; and the commissioners may, without payment of any fee, inspect and take copies of any public book; but all such information shall be deemed to be confidential, and the commissioners shall not disclose the same, or the contents of any document or book, to any person, otherwise than for the purposes of this act."

Accounting party to verify his account by production of books and documents, and commissioners may, without fee, inspect and take copies of public books.

Sect. 50. "It shall be lawful for any accountable party dissatisfied with the assessment of the commissioners, upon giving, within twenty-one days after the date of such assessment, notice in writing to the commissioners of his intention to appeal against such assessment, and a statement of the grounds of such appeal, such statement to be furnished within the further period of thirty days, to appeal by petition accordingly to her majesty's court of exchequer in England, Scotland, or Ireland,

Power for accountable party to appeal.

according to the place in which the appellant shall be resident; and every such court, or any judge thereof sitting in chambers, shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine the matter of such appeal and the costs thereof, with power to direct, for the purposes of such appeal, any inquiry, valuation, or report to be made by any officer of the court, or other person, as such court or judge may think fit. Provided, that where the sum in dispute in respect of duty on such assessment does not exceed fifty pounds, the accountable party may, having given notice of appeal and delivered a statement of the grounds thereof \*as hereinbefore directed, appeal to the judge of the county court in England, the sheriff court in Scotland, or the assistant barrister's court in Ireland, for the district, county, or division in which the appellant shall be resident, or the property be situate; and every such judge shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine the matter of such last mentioned appeal, with the like power and authority as are by this section given to a judge of her majesty court of exchequer." (u)

Sect. 51. "Whenever any payment of duty shall be made under this act, the same shall be entered in a book to be kept by the commissioners for this purpose, and the receiver general of inland revenue, or other proper officer appointed by the commissioners, shall give a receipt for the same in such form as they shall think fit, and stamped with the proper stamp for denoting the rate of duty, and the commissioners shall from time to time deliver to any person interested in any property affected by such duty, on applying for the same for any reasonable purpose approved by the commissioners, a certificate, in such form as they may think fit, of such payment." (v)

Sect. 52. "Every receipt and certificate purporting to be in discharge of the whole duty payable for the time being in respect of any succession or any part thereof shall exonerate a *bond fide* purchaser for valuable consideration, and without notice, from such duty, notwithstanding any suppression or misstatement in the account upon the footing whereof the

(u) An appeal is given from the decision of the court or judge to the exchequer chamber, and then to the house of lords, by stat. 28 & 29 Vict. c. 104, s. 59.

(v) See *Earl Howe v. Earl of Lichfield*, L. R. 1 Eq. 641.

same may have been assessed, or any insufficiency of such assessment; and no *bonâ fide* purchaser of property for valuable consideration under a title not appearing to confer a succession shall be subject to any duty with which such property may be chargeable under the provisions of this act, by reason of any extrinsic circumstances \* of which he shall not have had notice at the time of such purchase."

Sect. 53. "Whenever any suit shall be pending in any court for the administration of any property chargeable with duty under this act, or the legacy duty acts, such court shall provide, out of any property which may be in the possession or control of the court, for the payment of duty to the commissioners."

Courts in suits for the administration of property to provide for payment of duty.

Sect. 54. "This act shall be taken to have come into operation on the 19th day of May, 1853, and shall take effect accordingly."

Commencement of act.

Sect. 55. "This act may be cited for all purposes as 'the succession duty act, 1853.'"

Short title.

By stat. 28 & 29 Vict. c. 104, sections 47 and 48 of the 16 & 17 Vict. c. 51 (succession duty act), and the 1st section of the stat. 24 & 25 Vict. c. 92 are repealed, and by sect. 55 it is enacted, "If any person accountable and chargeable with duty under the succession duty act or the legacy duty acts required by the commissioners of inland revenue to deliver an account under those acts or any of them makes default in doing so, the commissioners may sue out of the court of exchequer a writ of summons commanding him to deliver an account, and to pay the duty and the costs of the proceedings, or to show cause to the contrary, and on cause being shown, such order shall be made as seems just."

Stat. 28 & 29 Vict. c. 104, s. 55, for summary proceedings for account and payment of succession and legacy duty.

And by sect. 56, "where, in pursuance of the succession duty act or the legacy duty acts, the commissioners of inland revenue make an assessment of duty, and the duty is not paid, and there is no notice of appeal against the assessment under sect. 50 of the succession duty act (see *ante*, 1608), or of disputing the liability to assessment, the commissioners may sue out of the court of exchequer a writ of summons commanding the person liable for the duty, or the owner of any property expressly charged therewith, to pay the duty payable by him and the costs of the proceedings, or to

Sect. 56. Summary proceedings for payment of succession or legacy duty assessed.



show cause to the contrary, and on cause being shown, such order shall be made as seems just."

\* By sect. 58, in such proceedings the court may refer the matter to the proper officer for his report, and may therefore order a special case, and may give judgment thereon subject to proceedings in error.

By sects. 59 and 60, in such proceedings by writ of summons an appeal is given to the exchequer chamber, and thence to the house of lords. (x)

Having thus collected the principal statutory provisions now in force with respect to duties on legacies and successions, it remains to point out, more fully, the construction which has been put on these acts by the courts of law and equity. And for this purpose, it is proposed to consider, 1st, the amount of duties payable; 2dly, on what subjects the duties are payable; 3dly, by whom the duties are payable.

(x) See, also, stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 21, s. 15.

[1611]

## \* CHAPTER THE FIRST.

## AS TO THE AMOUNT OF DUTIES PAYABLE ON LEGACIES AND SUCCESSIONS.

It will be observed, that by the latest stamp act (55 Geo. 3, c. 184), the present rates of duties are respectively imposed only on legacies, in cases where the testator or intestate died before or on the 5th of April, 1805, and the legacies or residue shall be paid, delivered, retained, satisfied, or discharged, *after* the 31st of August, 1815, and on legacies and successions, in cases where the testator or intestate died after the 5th day of April, 1805, and the legacies, &c. shall be paid, delivered, retained, or discharged, *after* the 31st of August, 1815. And the preceding stamp act (48 Geo. 3, c. 149), contained a similar provision, *mutatis mutandis*, with respect to the dates of the 5th of April, 1805, and the 10th of October, 1808.

What shall  
be consid-  
ered a leg-  
acy paid,  
&c. before  
31st Au-  
gust, 1815.

It is therefore material to ascertain, under what circumstances a legacy shall be said to be "paid, delivered, retained, satisfied, or discharged," within the meaning of the statute.

In *The Attorney General v. Manners*, (a) Lord William Manners, who died in the year 1771, bequeathed the sum of 13,000*l.* to his executors, in trust to place the same out at interest, and pay the proceeds to his natural son, Thomas Manners, for his life, and after his decease to pay one moiety to the eldest son of of the said Thomas Manners, and the other moiety to his younger children. In the year 1794, the executors invested the money in the funds in their own names, and the interest was duly paid to Thomas Manners \* till his death in 1812. The question was, whether the legacy to his children was subject to a duty of 8*l.* per cent. imposed by the statute of 48 Geo. 3, c. 149. And the court of exchequer held in the affirmative, as being a legacy given by will of a person dying before the 5th of April, 1805, and not

(a) 1 Price, 411.

paid, retained, satisfied, or discharged, till after the 10th of October, 1808. So, in the case of the Attorney General *v. Wood*, (b) William Coombes, who died in 1794, bequeathed a legacy, in consolidated stock, to executors, in trust to pay the interest to Ann Buckland for life; remainder, after her decease, to her surviving children, on their attaining twenty-one; remainder, if no surviving children, to her appointees; remainder, in default of appointment to her next of kin. Upon the testator's death, the executors transferred the legacies into their own names from that of the testator, paid his debts, and accounted for the residuary estate to the residuary legatee. The dividends were regularly paid by the executors to Ann Buckland until 1826, when she died, leaving three children. And the court of exchequer held that the transfer did not amount to a payment, delivery, retainer, satisfaction, or discharge of the legacy, before the 31st of August, 1815; and that it was therefore liable to the duty under the 55 Geo. 3, c. 184.

But in *Hill v. Atkinson*, (c) the sum of 3,000*l.* was given by will to trustees, who were also appointed executors, upon trust to invest and pay the interest to Ann Atkinson for life, and, after her death to apply the same to the maintenance of the child of which she was then *enceinte*, and to transfer the principal to such child, on attaining twenty-one; but in case it should die under twenty-one, then to Tabitha Leake, her executors, &c. The testator died in 1776. Ann Atkinson never was with child; and under a decree, the 3,000*l.* was, in the year 1779, paid by the trustees into court, and invested in stock, in the name \* of the accountant general, Tabitha Leake being then an infant. And Lord Eldon determined that the executors, by paying in the money under the decree of the court, effected a sufficient appropriation of the legacy to be within the words of the act of 48 Geo. 3, c. 149, "paid, retained, satisfied, or discharged," before the 10th of October, 1808; and therefore, upon a question arising at the time of the principal becoming payable, his lordship determined that no legacy duty was chargeable in respect of it.

In this case of *Hill v. Atkinson*, Lord Eldon observed, (d) that the ground of the decision of *The Attorney General v. Manners* must have been, that the barons were of opinion that an execu-

(b) 2 Y. &amp; Jerv. 290.

(d) 2 Meriv. 53, 54; 3 Price, 404.

(c) 2 Meriv. 45; S. C. 3 Price, 399.

tor, who is also a trustee, shifting a legacy from his hands as executor into his hands as trustee, does not thereby appropriate the legacy. And, according to the report of the case by Mr. Price, his lordship seems to have been of opinion that appropriation means payment. But with reference to this part of his lordship's judgment, it was observed by Alexander L. C. B., in the above mentioned case of *The Attorney General v. Wood*, (e) after remarking that the case of *Hill v. Atkinson* could not be justly considered as opposed to *The Attorney General v. Manners*: "If I were disposed to give the utmost effect to these words to the utmost extent that the counsel for the defendant could desire, I should not think myself at liberty to consider that which is but an *obiter dictum*, and not necessary to the decision of that case, an authority sufficient to overrule that which was actually done by this court, upon great consideration. But I do not think, even giving full effect to those words, that such a consequence should follow. All that the lord chancellor says is, that a transfer by an executor to himself as trustee is an appropriation of the legacy. It has been so held for a considerable length of time. For particular purposes, unquestionably it is an appropriation. If an executor transfer into his own name as trustee the amount of a particular legacy, and \*acts upon that transfer, that is an appropriation as against many persons, and in particular as against himself. But the question here is, whether that act so done is to be considered as a delivery of the legacy as against the revenue, and this act of parliament; whether it is a retainer, or a satisfaction, or a discharge. Now the fact is, that it has not been delivered, it has not been retained, it has not been satisfied, and it has not been discharged, but the executor and the trustee is at this moment liable, in consequence of having this fund in his hands." His lordship further observed in the course of his judgment: "The case of *Hill v. Atkinson* is a case in which the executor or trustee, or whatever name you give him, was actually discharged, as much as if there had been persons in being entitled to give him a legacy receipt, if a receipt was necessary at that time. The money was paid into court, and distinguished from all the rest of the testator's effects, but above all, taken out of the hands of the executor, and paid into the name of the accountant general of the court, under the directions of the court, for the benefit of the legatees. That,

(e) 2 Y. &amp; Jerv. 300.

therefore, was an actual payment by the executor, for the use of those persons, whoever they might be. Whether it was a vested interest, or a contingent interest, the executor was discharged, which in this case he undoubtedly is not."

In *Coombe v. Trist*, (*f*) a testator bequeathed a sum of money to Ann Venning for life, and after her decease to her children, as she should appoint, and in default of appointment, equally among all her children, who, if sons, should attain twenty-one, or, if daughters, should attain that age, or be married; and if she should have no such children, then according to her appointment, and, in default of appointment, over. Upon the death of the testator, a suit was instituted for the purpose of having this legacy secured. Under the decree made in that suit in the year 1798, the \* executors paid the amount into court, and, prior to November, 1802, the whole of it was invested in stock in the name of the accountant general, and placed to the separate account of Ann Venning, who continued to receive the dividends during her life. And Lord Lyndhurst held that this was a sufficient payment of the legacy within the stat. 55 Geo. 3, c. 184; and, therefore, that upon Ann Venning's death in the year 1834, the parties interested in remainder, who were the children of Ann Venning, were entitled to receive their several shares of the fund, without producing receipts for the legacy duty. His lordship, in giving his judgment, observed, that, "according to the act of parliament, the duty is to attach on all legacies paid after a certain day; and the sole question is, whether the legacy was in this instance paid before or after the particular day. Now it is admitted that the executors here paid the entire fund into court before that day, under the authority of an order, and that the money was afterwards transferred into the name of the accountant general, and invested on the account, and for the benefit of the tenant for life; and, upon the authority of *Hill v. Atkinson*, I consider that proceeding to have been a payment to such parties, whoever they might be, as should become eventually entitled to the legacy." (*g*)

In *The Attorney General v. Hancock*, (*h*) one Samuel Malbon by his will devised all his real estates, except his mortgages in fee, unto William Vivian and James Morell, their heirs and as-

(*f*) 1 My. & Cr. 69.

acted upon by the court of exchequer in

(*g*) The principle of this case and that of *Hill v. Atkinson* was recognized and

Atty. Gen. *v. Loscombe*, 5 H. & N. 564.

(*h*) 2 M. & W. 563.

signs, to and upon the uses and trusts therein mentioned, viz, to the use of William Malbon and his assigns for life, with remainder in tail to his issue, with divers remainders over, and the said Samuel Malbon, the testator, by his will gave and devised all the residue of his personal estate (after payment of debts and legacies), as also \* all such real estates as he was seised of as mortgagee in fee unto William Vivian and William Malbon, their heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, upon trusts to convert the whole of the said residue into money, and to lay out and invest the same, as soon as conveniently might be, in the purchase of real estate, to be conveyed to the said William Vivian and James Morell (the trustees of his real estates), their heirs and assigns, to and upon the same uses and trusts as were thereinbefore declared of and concerning his real estates. And the testator thereby declared, that until such purchases were made, his said executors should place out or continue all the said residue at interest, in the names of his said executors, on mortgage of real estate; or, if the same should not offer, that the residue should be placed out at interest in the public funds, and the interest and dividends were directed to be paid to the persons to whom the rents and profits of the real estate, therewith to be purchased, would belong by virtue of his will. The testator appointed the said William Vivian and William Malbon his executors, and died in 1791, when they took upon themselves the execution of the will. The residue amounted to 14,000*l.*, and was invested in mortgage, in the names of the executors, before the year 1796, and before the act of 36 Geo. 3, c. 52; after which William Vivian died, and William Malbon, who enjoyed the interest during his life, became the surviving executor. William Malbon died without issue in 1825, and appointed William Hancock and George Reade his executors. The money was never applied in the purchase of real estate; and William Hancock and George Reade, the executors under the will of William Malbon, on the 26th of January, 1832, paid the residue of the personal estate of Samuel Malbon (the original testator) to James Morell, he being the person entitled to it under Samuel Malbon's will. And the court of exchequer held that this was a legacy given by the will of a person dying before the 5th of April, 1805, and paid, satisfied, or discharged, after the 31st day of August, 1815, within the meaning of the stat. 55 Geo. 3, \* c. 184, and was liable to the payment of legacy duty under that act.

Another question, with respect to the amount of the duties payable, has arisen in the instance of legacies given to a husband and wife for life, in a case where the one is of kin to the testator, so as to be within the lower scale of duties, and the other a stranger in blood, so as to be within the highest. In the *Attorney General v. Bacchus*, (i) where a legacy of the residue of a testator's personal estate was bequeathed to B. his son-in-law, and P. the wife of B. (the testator's daughter), their executors, &c. for their absolute benefit, it was held that such legacy was not liable to the duty of 1*l*. per cent. on the whole, as a bequest to or for the benefit of P., a daughter of the testator, nor to 10*l*. per cent. on the whole, as being given to, or devolving on, or for the benefit of B., a stranger in blood to the deceased; but that it was liable to the payment of 1*l*. per cent. as to one moiety, and 10*l*. per cent. as to the other. And this decision was confirmed in the exchequer chamber. (j) Again, it was holden, in *The Attorney General v. Burnie*, (k), that a bequest of "the remainder of my property, of whatever it may consist, such money as arises from it to be invested in the public funds, the interest to be appropriated to the use of my son and his wife (a stranger in blood), for their lives, with remainder to my grandchildren, in equal proportions," was liable to legacy duty to be calculated at the rate of 1*l*. per cent. for the son's moiety, and 10*l*. per cent. for that of the wife; upon the principle that the son and his wife each took a life interest in one moiety of the income of the residue.

The law has been altered in this respect, as to legacies given by testators who shall have died on or after May 19, 1853, by the 11th section of the succession duty act. (l)

\* It may be remarked, that the acts do not specify any time at which the executor or administrator must render his final or residuary account at the stamp office; for the obvious reason that the peculiar circumstances of the property of the deceased would, in many cases, preclude the possibility of complying with any such restriction. But the duty must be paid on the accruing profits and income of the effects of the deceased, from the time of his death to that of de-

Amount of duty payable in case of a legacy to husband and wife, where the one is a child of the testator, and the other a stranger.

In what cases duty is payable on the interest as well as the principal of a legacy.

(i) 9 Price, 30.

(k) 8 Y. & Jerv. 531.

(j) 11 Price, 547. See *Atcheson v. Atcheson*, 11 Beav. 485, 490.

(l) See *ante*, 1592.

livering the account and offering to pay the duty at the stamp office. (m) In *The Attorney General v. Cavendish*, (n) Lord F. Cavendish died in October, 1803, and on the 20th of July, 1808, the defendant, as executor and residuary legatee, delivered in his residuary account of the testator's personal estate intended to be retained by him, and offered to pay the duty on the residuary estate, exclusive of the interest which had accrued since the testator's decease, 324*l.* less than it would have been had the duty been computed on the interest accrued. And it was decided that the duty was payable on the interest accrued from the death up to the time of the delivering of the account.

So in *Thomas v. Montgomery*, (o) it was holden that when a legacy is not paid at the time appointed by the testator, legacy duty is payable, not merely on the capital sum bequeathed, but on the aggregate amount of capital and interest which is ultimately received by the legatee. (p)

But it was holden by the court of exchequer, in *The Attorney General v. Holbrook*, (q) that where by a will a specific debt is forgiven, which is known and ascertained at the time of the testator's death, legacy duty is not payable upon the interest accruing in respect of such debt, between the time of such death and the period when the executors close their accounts.

(m) 1 Rep. Leg. 787, 3d ed.

(n) Wightw. 82.

(o) 3 Russ. 582.

(p) See, also, accord. *Bate v. Payne*,

13 Q. B. 900, as to profits accruing on leaseholds.

(q) 3 Y. & Jerv. 114.



## \* CHAPTER THE SECOND.

## UPON WHAT SUBJECTS THE DUTIES ARE PAYABLE.

What are to be regarded as legacies payable out of personalty. It has appeared that legacies of every description, given by will or other testamentary instrument, of above the value of 20*l.* each, (*a*) payable out of personal estate, including donations *mortis causâ*, (*b*) and whether given by way of annuity or otherwise, (*c*) and also legacies given subject to contingencies, (*d*) are liable to the duties imposed by the statute 55 Geo. 3, c. 184.

Leaseholds. As to leaseholds, the succession duty act (s. 19) provides that after May 19, 1853, they shall not be chargeable with legacy duty, but shall be included in the term "real property," and, as such, be liable to succession duty. (*e*)

There has already been occasion to consider generally what instruments are to be regarded as testamentary. (*f*) But it may be proper to inquire more particularly into the question with reference to the legacy duty.

What is a testamentary instrument. In *The Attorney General v. Jones*, (*g*) a man conveyed by deed, for a nominal consideration, his leasehold and personal property to trustees, for the use of himself for life, and several persons therein named at his death, with a power reserved of revocation or alteration of the trusts. He never parted with the deed, or with any part of the property during his life; and he confirmed, in most respects, such disposition of it by will at his death. And it was holden by the court of exchequer (*Wood B. dissentiente*), that the two instruments \* should be considered as to be taken and construed together as testamentary instruments, and that the property passing under them should pass as legacies, and be subject to duty.

(*a*) *Ante*, 1550.

(*b*) *Ante*, 1558, 1586.

(*c*) *Ante*, 1554, 1558, 1586.

(*d*) *Ante*, 1565.

(*e*) *Ante*, 1596.

(*f*) See *ante*, 103-107. See, also, *Gaskell v. Gaskell*, 2 Y. & Jerv. 502; and the remarks by Wood V. C. on that case, 4 Kay & J. 214, 215.

(*g*) 3 Price, 368.

But in *Thompson v. Browne*, (*h*) Sir C. Pepys M. R. held that an instrument, vesting property in trustees for the benefit of the grantor for his life, and after his decease for the benefit of other persons, with a power of revocation, was not testamentary, and, consequently, not liable to the payment of legacy duty. And his honor observed, that "the decision in *The Attorney General v. Jones* seems to have proceeded upon the ground that, under the circumstances of that case, nothing passed from the maker of the instrument so as to entitle any other person to interfere with his property in his lifetime. If there be anything in that decision to support the notion that, where a person by deed settles property to his own use during his life, and after his decease for the benefit of other persons, a power of revocation reserved in such a deed alters the character of the instrument, and renders it testamentary, and consequently subject to legacy duty, I can only say, that if this were law, a great number of transactions of which the validity has never been doubted would be liable to be impeached." (*i*)

\* But cases of this kind, which occur after May 19, 1853, will fall, it should seem, within the operation of the 8th section of the succession duty act. (*k*)

In *Woodbridge v. Spooner*, (*l*) where the deceased, in her life-

(*h*) 3 My. & K. 32.

(*i*) See, also, *Majoribanks v. Hovenden*, 1 Drury, 11, 27, 29, *coram* Sir E. Sugden C. of Ireland. In *Sheldon v. Sheldon*, 1 Roberts. 83, Dr. Lushington (sitting for H. Jenner Fust) said he had always understood that the case of *Atty. Gen. v. Jones* had been disapproved of; and that in his judgment it was an erroneous decision. And the same opinion was very decidedly expressed by Lord St. Leonards in *Brown v. Adv. Gen.* 1 Macq. H. of L. 79. In *Fletcher v. Fletcher*, 4 Hare, 79, in which case it was argued that a voluntary covenant by a testator, for payment by his executors of a sum of money to trustees in trust for his two natural sons, if they should survive him, was testamentary, and the cases collected, *ante*, 103, 104, were cited, Wigram V. C. said: "I certainly was not prepared to find that the cases had gone so far as they have upon the subject. Those cases, however, are very distinguishable from the one be-

fore me. This is not a case where there is a general power of revocation reserved — a general power to dispose by will, notwithstanding the execution of the instrument. In the cases referred to there has been a general reservation — or something like a reservation — of the party's right to deal with the property notwithstanding the instrument; and the courts have held that in such cases, the instrument being one which was not to have effect until the death of the party, or rather, I would say, to use the language of Sir John Nicholl, in one of the cases, in which, until the death of the party, the instrument itself was not consummated — until then no conclusive effect could be given to it. If that does not occur, the instrument is not to be considered as testamentary. In this case the party clearly was bound; and there is, therefore, no ground for the argument: that the interest is testamentary."

(*k*) *Ante*, 1590.

(*l*) 1 Chitt. R. 661; S. C. 3 B. & Ald. 233.

time, gave to the plaintiff a promissory note to pay him or order "on demand the sum of 100*l.* for value received and his kindness to me," with a verbal engagement on the part of the plaintiff, that the note should not be demanded until after her death, it was holden by the court of king's bench, that parol evidence could not be received to show that it was not given for a valuable consideration; and that such a note did not operate by way of testamentary disposition; nor was it void on the ground that it was a fraud on the legacy duty, that duty never having attached upon it, and there being nothing to show that the amount passed by way of a *donatio mortis causâ*. (m)

With respect to the suggestion of fraud on the legacy duty, it should be observed, that a man may well make a settlement or create a trust *inter vivos* for the purpose of avoiding \* legacy duty. It is often done, and may reasonably and properly be done. (n) But to cases of this kind, also, which occur after the succession duty act has come into operation, the 8th section of that statute appears to have been intended to apply. (o)

The duties imposed by the legacy acts are payable, not only upon a legacy payable out of the personal estate, strictly considered, of the testator, but out of any personal estate which the testator had the power of disposing of, as he or she might think proper. Thus, In re Cholmondeley, 20,000*l.* was vested in trustees, upon trust to pay the dividends to Sir Philip Francis for life, and after his death to Mr. Cholmondeley for his life, with remainder to Mrs. Cholmondeley for her life, and with a power of appointment amongst her children, in case there should be any; and, in default of issue, to such

(m) But in a case which occurred after the wills act, where, among the testator's papers, two letters were found, sealed and directed, "For Sarah Gough, my late servant," each containing a promissory note signed by him, and one of the letters stated that the deceased inclosed 200*l.* as a mark of respect, and the other that the inclosed was for her long and faithful services, it was held that the notes were, in effect, invalid testamentary instruments and void. *Gough v. Findon*, 7 Ex. 48.

(n) *Farquharson v. Cave*, 2 Coll. 366,

per Knight Bruce V. C. So it was said by Lord Lyndhurst C. B. that every subject has a right so to shape the disposition of his property as to avoid the legacy duty, if possible; and that there is no fraud in so doing. 2 Cr., M. & R. 221, In re Evans. See, also, the observations of Wood V. C. in *Vandenberg v. Palmer*, 4 Kay & J. 215.

(o) See *ante*, 1590.

(p) 1 Cr. & M. 149; S. C. 3 Tyrwh. 10.

persons as she shall by will appoint, in case she died in her husband's lifetime, or by deed or will, in case she should survive her husband; and in default of appointment amongst her next of kin; Mrs. Cholmondeley died in her husband's lifetime, having, by her will, appointed this sum of 20,000*l.* to certain persons mentioned in her will. And the court of exchequer held that legacy duty was payable on the 20,000*l.* The barons were of opinion that, taking all the acts together, applicable to the same subject, and passed *in pari materid.* and the legislature in the 36 Geo. 3, (q) and the 45 Geo. 3, (r) having described and defined what they meant by a legacy, it was \*impossible to come to a conclusion that they meant to use that term in a more limited sense in the statute of 55 Geo. 3.

In *Platt v. Routh*, (s) John Ramsden, by his will dated the 10th of March, 1825, after giving various legacies, and directing his real estates to be sold and converted into personalty, gave the general residue of his personal estate to his daughter Judith Ann Platt, and three other persons, his executrix and executors, upon trust to permit his said daughter to receive the interest and dividends thereof during her life, and after her death (subject to certain payment then to be made) upon trust for such person or persons, *other than and except Joseph Woodhead and his relations, Moses Hoper and his relations, and the relations of the late husband of his said daughter and every of them*, in such parts, shares, and proportions, and in such manner and form as the said Judith A. Platt, whether sole or covert, should by will appoint, and in default of appointment, in trust for the next of kin of Dyson Ramsden; and the testator declared, that in case his said daughter should intermarry with the said Joseph Woodhead or any of his relations, or should reside with or receive visits from him or them, then the bequest in her favor should utterly cease. The testator died in May, 1825, and his will was duly proved by his executrix and executors. After his death, the said Judith A. Platt married George E. Platt, and the interest and dividends of the testator's residuary estate (which was very considerable), were regularly paid to her until her death, on the 7th of September, 1837. In April, 1837, she made a will, and thereby, in exercise of the

(q) See *ante*, 1557, 1558.

(s) 6 M. &amp; W. 756.

(r) See *ante*, 1583. See, also, stat. 8& 9 Vict. c. 76, s. 4, *ante*, 1586.

power under her father's will, she gave 10,000*l.* consols to the descendants of the before named Dyson Ramsden, and all the rest of her late father's property to various persons, strangers in blood both to her father and herself. By order of the master of the rolls, a case was stated for the opinion of the barons of the \*exchequer, as well as to the liability of Judith A. Platt's will to the probate duty, (t) as also to the legacy duty payable in respect to the bequests contained in the two wills. Their lordships thought that the question, so far as regarded the legacy duty, depended entirely upon the construction to be put upon the 18th section of the 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, (u) which regulates the duty in cases where legacies are given subject to power of appointment; and they were of opinion that the power under consideration must be treated as a general and absolute power within the meaning of that section. The barons were also of opinion that according to the true construction of the 7th section of the same statute, (v) the property subject to the power was personal estate, which Judith A. Platt had power to dispose of as she should think fit. Their lordships accordingly certified to the master of the rolls their opinion that, on the death of Judith Ann Platt, a duty of one per cent. became payable in respect of the bequest in the will of John Ramsden of the residue of his estate and effects to the said Judith Ann Platt, after allowing any duty already paid in respect thereof. And also their further opinion, that legacy duty was payable in respect of the bequest contained in the will of the said Judith Ann Platt, at same rate at which it would have been payable if they had been mere legacies given by her, payable out of her own personal estate. This opinion of the barons was afterwards affirmed by the decree of Lord Langdale; (x) and finally by the decision of the house of lords. (y)

In *The Attorney General v. Brackenbury*, (z) it was held that where the residuary legatees were the persons who would have been entitled in default of appointment, if the donee of the power had exercised it by charging in the first instance his residuary estate with his debts and legacies, it \*is not competent for the residuary legatees to disclaim the fund under the appointment

(t) See *ante*, 625, 626.

(x) 3 Beav. 257.

(u) *Ante*, 1566.

(y) 10 Cl. &amp; Fin. 257.

(v) *Ante*, 1557. See, also, stat. 8 & 9

(z) 1 H. &amp; C. 782.

Vict. c. 76, s. 4, *ante*, 1586.

and elect to take under the gift to them in the original instrument, so as to be chargeable only with a lower rate of duty.

In *The Attorney General v. Pickard*, (a) a testator devised real estates to William Trenchard for life, with remainder to his first and other sons in tail, with remainder to Thomas Pickard for life, remainder to his first and other sons in tail, remainder to George Pickard for life, with remainders over, and gave a power to the several persons who, by virtue of the limitations in the will, should be in actual possession of the estates by deed or will, to appoint to any woman or women they should marry, by way of jointure, rentcharges not exceeding 750*l.* per annum for life, to be issuing out of and chargeable upon the devised estates, clear of all taxes and deductions whatsoever. William Trenchard died without issue, and Thomas Pickard entered into possession of the estates, and, by his will, charged them with 750*l.* per annum by way of jointure to his wife, under the power, and died without issue male; whereupon George Pickard entered into possession. And the barons of the exchequer held that George Pickard was chargeable (under 45 Geo. 3, c. 28, s. 5, *ante*, 1584) with legacy duty after the rate of 10*l.* per cent. on the value of the rentcharge of 750*l.* per annum; their lordships being of opinion that the annuity in question, being a legacy, was charged upon the real estates by the will which created the power to charge, in like manner as if the person, to whom it was given by the execution of the power, had been mentioned by name as the object of the testator's bounty in the will which gave the power. And this decision was afterwards affirmed in the exchequer chamber. (b)

This case was followed by that of *The Attorney General v. Henniker*, (c) in which it was held by the same court to \*make no difference that by the husband's appointment of the annuity by way of jointure it was given to the wife on condition that she should relinquish her right to dower. (d)

In giving the judgment of the court of exchequer chamber in

(a) 3 M. & W. 552.

(b) 6 M. & W. 438.

(c) 7 Ex. 331.

(d) See, also, *accord. Sweeting v. Sweeting*, 1 Drew. 331. The barons doubted whether, if this condition has been annexed by the original testator himself, the

duty would have been payable on the whole annuity, or on the amount of it after deducting the value of the dower. But in *Sweeting v. Sweeting*, *Kindersley v. C.* was of opinion there is no ground for any such doubt.

the case of *The Attorney General v. Pickard*, Lord Denman intimated his opinion, that charges of this nature would be exempt, if originally made by deed, under the proviso contained in stat. 45 Geo. 3, c. 28, s. 4. (e) And this opinion was subsequently acted upon by the court of exchequer in *The Attorney General v. Lord Hertford*. (f) There A., by deed, dated in 1802, conveyed certain lands to trustees, to the use of himself for life, remainder to B., his son, for life, with remainders over. The deed contained a proviso that it should be lawful for B., by his last will, to limit and appoint to the use of himself, or any other person or persons, any annual sum or sums of money, not exceeding the yearly sum of 700*l.*, to be charged upon and payable out of the lands included in the deed, to commence from the death of B., and to be either perpetual or in fee, or payable for such times and in such manner in all respects as B. should think fit. B., by his will, by virtue of this power, appointed an annuity of 700*l.* a year to C. for her life, charged upon and payable out of the said land. And it was held by the court of exchequer, that legacy duty was not payable in respect of such annuity.

This decision occasioned the passing of the stat. 8 & 9 Vict. c. 76, (g) which contains a wider definition of a legacy, and a narrower proviso, than that contained in the statute of 45 Geo. 3. And legacy duty has since become \* chargeable on every disposition by will, under a power, of money which is payable out of real estate, or a charge thereon, whether the power was created by deed or will. And it has also been held that the statute is retrospective, so that the duty is chargeable on money paid after the act came into operation, notwithstanding the testator died before. (h)

It will be seen that in the act of Victoria the proviso at the end of the clause confines the exemption from duty to money which, by marriage settlement, is subjected to any limited power of appointment to or for the benefit of persons specially named or described therein as the objects of the power, or of their issue. And even this exemption has been practically repealed by the succession duty act. (i)

(e) See *ante*, 1583.

(f) 14 M. &amp; W. 284.

(g) *Ante*, 1586. See Trevor on Taxes of Succession, 104, 105.

(h) Atty. Gen. v. Lord Hertford, 3 Ex. 670.

(i) See Trevor on Taxes of Succession, 187.

It has appeared, (*k*) that legacies of every description of the value of 20*l.* or upwards, given out of or charged upon real or heritable estate, (*l*) or out of any moneys to arise by sale, mortgage, or other disposition of real or heritable estate, or any part thereof, and also the clear residue, when \* given to one person, and every share of the clear residue (when given to two or more persons), of the moneys to arise from the sale, mortgage, or other disposition of any real or heritable estate *directed to be sold*, mortgaged, or otherwise disposed of, by any will or testamentary instrument, where such residue or share shall amount to 20*l.* or upwards, are subjected to the stamp duties. (*m*) With respect to the construction of this part of the statute of the 55 Geo. 3, c. 184, the court of exchequer, *In re Evans*, (*n*) decided that where there is a bequest of real property to trustees and a discretion given to them to sell or not to sell, as they shall think best for the *cestuis que trust*, the duty does not attach, notwithstanding the trustees shall have exercised their discretion by an actual sale; for that a sale made under a *discretion* given to trustees to sell and distribute the proceeds, but without any positive direction imposing on them the obligation of selling, is not to be considered a sale *directed* by the testator, within the meaning of the statute. This case has been regarded by the court of exchequer as overruled by the cases of *The Attorney General v. Mangles*, (*o*) and the *Attorney General v. Simcox*, (*p*) and it was considered to be fully established that *if an*

Duties on legacies, &c. out of, or charged on, real estate:

land directed to be sold:

(*k*) *Ante*, 1550, 1551.

(*l*) No legacy duty is payable on the value of personal estate given up by one legatee to another under the doctrine of election (*ante*, 1440 *et seq.*). But when the testator devises his own real estate to A., and bequeaths A.'s personal estate to B., the legacy duty is payable on the value of the personal estate so charged on the testator's real estate. *Laurie v. Clutton*, 15 Beav. 131. Where, however, a testator died in 1811, having devised lands to his nieces as tenants in common in fee, with a proviso that if his nephew should transfer 10,000*l.* consols into the names of trustees for the benefit of the nieces, the lands should inure to the use of the nephew, and the nephew in the

course of the following year having exercised his option, and transferred the consols, it was held, in the *Attorney General v. Wyndham*, 1 H. & C. 571, that the defendant, the executor of the last surviving trustee, was liable to pay duty on the 10,000*l.* consols at the rate of two and a half per cent.; for that the money arose by a "disposition" of the testator's real estate, within the meaning of the stat. 48 Geo. 3, c. 149, s. 2. See *ante*, 1585.

(*m*) See, also, stat. 45 Geo. 3, c. 28, *ante*, 1583, and stat. 8 & 9 Vict. c. 76, s. 4, *ante*, 1586.

(*n*) 2 Cr., M. & R. 206.

(*o*) 5 M. & W. 120.

(*p*) 1 Ex. 749.



*actual sale* takes place, the proceeds are liable to duty, whether the sale is made by the trustees under an absolute direction given to the trustees to sell at all events, or under a direction given to them to sell in case they shall deem it expedient to do so. (q) However, a contrary doctrine seems to have been maintained in the case of *The Advocate General v. Smith*, (r) in the house of lords, where Lord St. Leonards said he thought the case of *In re Evans* had been rightly decided, and he denied that it had ever been overruled. It has also been held that if a real estate is sold under the general power \* of the court of chancery to direct a sale for satisfying charges, no legacy duty is payable, although the will contains a discretionary power to trustees to sell. (s)

Again, where the trustees have a discretion to sell or not to sell, *and they think fit not to sell*, the legacy duty does not attach. (t) And consequently, in every will of this kind, where *no actual sale* takes place, a question of construction arises, viz, whether, taking the will altogether, there is a *direction* to the trustees to convert the estate into money; or whether it is really left in their *discretion* not to convert it into money, but to leave it as land. The words of discretion may be so controlled as to show that they are only in semblance words of discretion, and in reality words of direction; (u) and if they are of the latter description, the legacy duty will attach under the act, notwithstanding the *cestui que trust* in fact takes the property in *statu quo*, and the trustees do not convert it into money by sale, according to the directions of the will, there being no claim to render such sale necessary. (x)

If a testator devises real estate to trustees with directions to sell it, and invest the money arising from such sale in the purchase of other real estate, no duty is payable, though the estate be sold, and the proceeds paid to the person entitled to the estate to be bought. (y)

It was held by Lord Cottenham in *The Attorney General v.*

(q) See 1 Ex. 765, 766, 768; Atty. Gen. v. Metcalfe, 6 Ex. 43, by Parke B.

(r) 1 Macq. H. of L. 760.

(s) *Hobson v. Neale*, 8 Ex. 368; 17 Beav. 178. *Secus*, where the sale is ordered by the court, in consequence of the directions in testator's will. *Harding v. Harding*, 2 Giff. 597.

(t) 5 M. & W. 120.

(u) *Advocate General v. Ramsay's Trustees*, 2 Cr., M. & R. 224, note (a).

(x) *Atty. Gen. v. Holford*, 1 Price, 426; *Williamson v. Advocate General*, 10 Cl. & Fin. 1, accord.

(y) *Miles v. Jennings*, 8 Ex. 830; *Heal v. Knight*, 8 Ex. 839, note (a).

Jones, (z) that the profits arising from the tolls of a lighthouse are real estate, and not subject to legacy duty. Tolls.

These and similar questions have obviously lost their \*importance since the succession duty act has taxed all real estate equally with personalty.

In *The Attorney General v. Jackson*, (a) the testator, Samuel Jackson, gave a life estate in his freehold property to Charlotte Troughton, and after her death, and in the event of her husband, Joseph Troughton, surviving her, he gave him "one annuity or yearly rentcharge" of 500*l.* a year, payable quarterly, out of his real estate, with a landlord's power of distress and entry, and subject to that annuity, he gave his real estate in moieties to Randle Jackson and William Jackson, Randle Jackson having an estate in fee, and William Jackson an estate for life. The question was, whether the annuity of 500*l.* a year, thus given to Joseph Troughton, was to be considered a legacy within the meaning of the acts of parliament imposing duties on legacies. It was contended, on behalf of the defendants, that the subject-matter was in fact real property; that it was a rentcharge, *i. e.* a freehold interest in the party in whose favor it was granted; that it was as much so, as far as related to the 500*l.* per annum, as the estate out of which it issued; and that it was not the intention of the legislature, in imposing the legacy duties, to impose any duty whatever upon real property. But the court of exchequer held that the annuity in question fell precisely within the terms made use of by the legislature in the stat. 55 Geo. 3, c. 184, with respect to gift by way of annuity, viz, "all gifts of annuities, or by way of annuity, or of any partial interest or benefit, out of any such estate or effects as aforesaid," (b) and was therefore liable to the duty. (c)

But in *Shirley v. Lord Ferrers*, (d) a testator devised certain estates to the use of trustees for the term of five hundred years, and \*subject thereto, to the use of other trustees, to preserve contingent remainders, with remainder to the first and other sons of

(z) 1 Mac. & G. 574.

(a) 2 Cr. & Jerv. 101.

(b) *Ante*, 1554.

(c) See, also, *Stow v. Davenport*, 5 B.

& Ad. 359; 2 Nev. & M. 805, in which case the court of K. B. recognized and acted on this decision.

(d) 1 Phill. C. C. 167.

[1631] [1632]

C. S. (then an infant), with divers remainders over, and he directed that the trustees of the term should, after paying certain annuities, apply so much of the rents and profits of the estate as they should think fit (not exceeding in any one year a certain amount), in aid of another fund, to the maintenance and education of C. S., until she should attain twenty-one or marry, and that they should accumulate the surplus rents and profits for the benefit of C. S. when she should attain twenty-one or marry, and if she died under twenty-one and unmarried, then for the benefit of the parties entitled under the subsequent limitations of the estates, and that upon her attaining twenty-one or marrying, they should, during her lifetime, pay the surplus rents, after paying the annuities, to her for her separate use. It was contended, on behalf of the crown, that the trust for maintenance amounted to "a gift by way of annuity," or "to a partial interest or benefit." But it was held by Lord Lyndhurst that the sums annually applied out of the rents and profits, under the trusts of the term, to the maintenance and education of C. S. until her marriage, were not liable to legacy duty. And his lordship expressed his opinion, that nothing but what is a charge upon the estate of another person is within the act. (e)

Legacies of personal estate to be laid out in land were within the scope of the acts, prior to the statute 36 Geo. 3, c. 51, imposing a stamp duty on receipts. (f) And there is no reason for excepting this class of legacies from the operation of the retrospective schedules. (g)

It was holden in the case of *Izon v. Butler*, (h) that a bequest \* by the obligee of a bond to the obligor in these terms, "I remit and forgive to Thomas Whithurst the sum of 500*l*. which he stands indebted to me on his bond, and I direct the said bond to be delivered up to him and cancelled," was merely a personal legacy, and subject to the incidents affecting legacies. And accordingly, in *The Attorney General v. Holbrook*, (i) the obligee of a bond, after the death of one James

Duty on a legacy consisting of forgiveness of a debt.  
(e) See *Swabey v. Swabey*, 15 Sim. 502 (*ante*, 615), as to money belonging to the testator, and charged on his own real estate, continuing a charge so as to be subject to legacy duty.

(g) *Atty. Gen. v. Hancock*, 2 M. & W. 563, *ante*, 1620.

(h) 2 Price, 34.

(i) 3 Y. & Jerv. 114; S. C. 12 Price, 407.

(f) See *ante*, 1555.

Willis, the principal therein, but during the life of the surety, who was the testator's brother, made his will, containing the following directions relative to the bond: "I hereby forgive the bond debt, both principal and interest, due to me and entered into by James Willis and my brother James Holbrook with and for him, for the said James Willis's paying me the principal sum of 4,000*l.* and interest, &c. &c. and do order the said bond, at my decease, to be delivered up and cancelled." The interest upon the bond was paid up to the death of the testator, whom his brother, James Holbrook, survived. And it was holden that this was a legacy, whereon legacy duty was payable by James Holbrook.

In *Foster v. Ley*, (*k*) where a testatrix bequeathed property in trust to pay off the debts of her first husband that could be legally and satisfactorily proved against him, as it was her will and desire that the same should be discharged, the court of common pleas held that the creditors ought to pay the legacy duty on their several debts. But in *Williamson v. Naylor*, (*l*) where a testator by his will declared that one fifth of the residue of his personal estate should be divided amongst certain of his creditors, named in a schedule to his will, and the schedule contained both the names of the creditors, and the debts due to them respectively, the remedy for the recovery of which was barred by the statute of limitations; it was held by Lord Lyndhurst C. B., and \* afterwards by Alderson B., that the parties so named in the schedule were not to be considered as legatees but as creditors; for that the bequest was not a legacy subject to the payment of legacy duty, but a trust created by the testator in satisfaction or reduction of debts, the remedy for the recovery of which was barred by the statute. (*m*) Nevertheless, in *Turner v. Martin*, (*n*) where a testator who was a certificated bankrupt, directed his executors to pay in full all his creditors who had proved, it was held by Lord Cranworth C. that the legacy duty was payable on the amount which the testator had directed to be paid to the official assignee for that purpose; for that the testator must be regarded as having conferred a mere bounty on the creditors.

(*k*) 2 Bing. N. C. 269. See O'Connor v. Haslam, 5 H. L. Cas. 170, 174; S. C. cited *nomine* Richards v. Foster.

(*m*) See, also, Phillips v. Phillips, 3 Hare, 290.

(*n*) 7 De G., M. & G. 429. See, also, In re Sowerby's Trust, 2 Kay & J. 630.

(*l*) 3 Y. & Coll. 208; *ante*, 1205, 1206.

In a case before Shadwell V. C. In re Franklin's Charity, (o) Joseph Franklin bequeathed to the poor of the parish of Haddenham 50*l.* per annum forever, to be laid out in bread at Christmas, and distributed by the minister and churchwardens to the most needy objects in the parish. And the testator charged all his leasehold and personal property with this, amongst other legacies. And his honor held that this was a legacy on which duty ought to be paid; on the ground that, although it was not expressed to be given to any individual, yet, in effect, it was given in such a manner as that the executor held it in trust for certain purposes. And his honor, in giving his judgment, observed, that where legacies have been given to treasurers of hospitals, and other charitable institutions, it has been considered as a matter of course to pay the duty.

But In re Wilkinson (p) the barons of the exchequer held that executors cannot be called upon to pay legacy duty upon the whole of a residue bequeathed to them in trust \* to divide the interest "among poor pious persons, male or female, old or infirm, in ten or fifteen pounds, as they see fit, not omitting large and sick families, if of good character." (q) This judgment, which was afterwards affirmed in the exchequer chamber, (r) has been regarded, in effect, as having overruled the above decision of the vice chancellor. And it has been observed, that the 11th section of the statute 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, (s) on which much stress was laid by the barons, and the judges in error, does not appear to have been brought under his honor's notice, in the argument of the case before him.

However, in *The Attorney General v. Fitzgerald*, (t) where the testator gave his residuary estate (which amounted to 13,000*l.*) to his executors to be by them appropriated to the education of the children of the poor in Ireland, principally those in or about Lim-

(o) 3 Y. & Jerv. 544; S. C. 3 Sim. 147.

(p) 1 Cr., M. & R. 142; S. C. 4 Tyrwh. 514.

(q) If any of the objects of the above bounty should have received to the amount of 20*l.* or upwards, by having been selected to receive such bounty on more than one occasion, legacy duty would attach on such amount, and the duty would be calculated

according to the nearness of blood of such individual, and in that case the executors would be accountable for, and bound to retain the duty chargeable on such amount. 1 Cr., M. & R. 142.

(r) Atty. Gen. v. Nash, 1 M. & W. 237.

(s) See *ante*, 1560, 1561.

(t) 13 Sim. 83.

erick ; the same learned judge held that legacy duty was payable on the residue. And his honor said that there was a material distinction between the case *In re Franklin's Charity* and the case *In re Wilkinson*. That in the former there was a gift of a perpetual annuity of 50*l.* to be disposed of in charity ; in the latter, the judges seem to have considered that there was a gift of a sum in gross, which was at once to be disposed of by the executors, apparently, as if it was not a charity. But that this of itself furnished a material difference between the two cases ; because, if the bequest was to be considered as a charitable bequest in its origin, then the court of chancery must, of necessity, have a dominion over the subject of the bequest, and would, from time to time, determine in what \* manner the property should be enjoyed ; and long before any person participated, the legacy must be paid. And his honor added, that he much doubted whether either portion of the 11th section of 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, applies to a case where the whole subject of the bequest must be taken *in solido*, at once, for the purpose of being applied in perpetuity, in some manner that may be such that no one individual will ever participate in the subject itself, but will have a benefit which results from the application of a large sum of money in some given manner, not consisting in the payment of money. The learned judge proceeded to express his opinion, that the legacy in question was liable to duty in the same manner as if it had been given to the trustees for an existing school for the purposes specified. This view of the subject was recognized and acted upon by Parke B. in a similar case, on a subsequent occasion, *In re Griffiths*, (u) and the learned baron expressed his concurrence in this opinion of V. C. Shadwell. And in two subsequent cases, (x) Romilly M. R. declined to follow the case, *In re Wilkinson*, and said he believed that decision had been afterwards disapproved of by the court which decided it. Again, in a late case, (y) the court of exchequer held that a bequest of money for the purpose of building a church and parsonage house, and of endowing and repairing the church, was subject to a legacy duty of 10*l.* per cent. (z)

In cases within the operation of the succession duty act, all ques-

(u) 14 M. & W. 510.

(x) *In re Pearce*, 24 Beav. 491 ; *Harris v. Earl Howe*, 29 Beav. 261.

(y) *In re Parker*, 4 H. & N. 666.

(z) The barons were of opinion that at all events the duty was payable under the 16th section of the succession duty act.

tions of this kind will be disposed of by the 16th section of that statute. (a)

The statute 39 Geo. 3, c. 73, after reciting that "it is expedient  
39 Geo. 3, c. 73. that certain specific legacies given to bodies corporate,  
No legacy of books bequeathed to any body corporate, &c. to be preserved shall be liable to any duty. \* or other public bodies and societies, should be exempted from the duties imposed on legacies," proceeds to enact, "that no legacy, consisting of books, prints, pictures, statues, gems, coins, medals, specimens of natural history, or other specific articles, which shall be given or bequeathed to or in trust for any body corporate, whether aggregate or sole, or to the society of Serjeants' Inn, or any of the inns of court or chancery, or any endowed school, in order to be kept and preserved by such body corporate, society, or school, and not for the purposes of sale, shall be liable to any duty imposed on legacies by any law now in force."

It has been long established that property in this country, belonging to a foreigner who dies domiciled abroad, and appoints an English executor, and bequeaths to English legatees, is not liable to legacy duty. (b)

Duty on legacies of property in this country belonging to a foreigner. If the testator was a British subject domiciled in Great Britain, all his personal property, in whatever part of the world it may be situate, is considered as English personal estate, and is liable to the duties imposed by the statutes on legacies and successions. For the rule is, that personal property follows the person, and is not in any way to be regulated by the *situs*. (c) Thus, In re Ewin, (d) it was held by the court of exchequer, that American, Austrian, French, and Russian stock, the property of a testator domiciled in England, was liable to legacy duty.

But it is clear that the legacy acts are co-extensive with the limits of this kingdom, and this kingdom only, and do not extend to the territorial possessions of the crown in the colonies. (e) Hence, where persons die domiciled in India, whose estates, though the estates of British subjects, are distributed in India, they are

(a) *Ante*, 1594.

(b) In re Brace, 2 Cr. & Jerv. 436; S. C. 2 Tyrwh. 475.

(c) See *ante*, 1515 *et seq.*

(d) 1 Cr. & Jerv. 151; S. C. 1 Tyrwh.

(e) 1 Cr. & Jerv. 153; 1 Tyrwh. 103, by Alexander L. C. B.; 1 Cr. & Jerv. 158; 1 Tyrwh. 107, by Bayley B.

not chargeable with any legacy duty. (*f*) Hence, also, if a testator die domiciled in India \* and his personal estate be wholly in India, and his executor be resident there, and the executor remit to a legatee in England, or to some other person in England, for the specific use of the legatee, the amount of his legacy, it has uniformly been held that no legacy duty is payable on such remittance, inasmuch as the whole estate is administered in India, and the remittance is in respect of a demand which is considered as established there. (*g*) Accordingly, in *Hay v. Fairlie*, (*h*) a testator, resident in India, bequeathed to an infant a sum of money to be invested in the company's securities, of which the interest was to be applied to her maintenance, and the principal to be settled upon herself for life, with remainder to her children. He was lost on his voyage to England, leaving all his property in India. His executors, resident in that country, proved his will at Calcutta, invested the legacy in the company's securities, and for several years remitted the interest to their correspondents in London, for the benefit of the legatee, who had come to England. A part of that interest was brought into court, in a suit established by her for the appointment of a guardian and for the allowance of maintenance, and an order was made for the payment to her guardian, out of the fund so created, of 200*l.* a year, as maintenance. And Lord Gifford M. R. held that there was a specific appropriation in India of the legacy, and that the payment of 200*l.* a year was not liable to the legacy duty. So in *Logan v. Fairlie*, (*i*) a testator resident in India, and having all his property there, bequeathed his residuary personal estate to his brother J. H. and his sister H. L. in equal shares; but in case his sister should die before him, then to her children. The executor, who was also resident in India, having proved the will there, remitted the residue to his agent in England, with a letter, in which he desired the agent to appropriate the fund according to the \* annexed extract of the will, by which it would be perceived that half went to J. H. and half to H. L. or her children. H. L. had died in the lifetime of the testator, leaving nine infant children. A suit was instituted in England by the children against the agent, and also against the

(*f*) By Alexander, L. C. B.; 1 Cr. & Jerv. 153; 1 Tyrwh. 103.

(*g*) By Sir J. Leach V. C. in *Logan v. Fairlie*, 2 Sim. & Stu. 291.

(*h*) 1 Russ. 117.

(*i*) 1 My. & Cr. 59.



executor and J. H. who were both out of the jurisdiction, for the purpose of having a moiety of the fund secured. And it was held, by the lords commissioners Pepys and Bosanquet, that no legacy duty was payable upon such moiety, inasmuch as it had been appropriated in India.

The rule was once supposed to be different, where, although the testator was domiciled abroad, the assets came to be administered in England. Thus, in *The Attorney General v. Cockerell*, (*j*) the barons of the exchequer held that legacies bequeathed by a British subject resident in the East Indies, out of his personal estate, to persons living in England, are liable to the duty, if the executor proves the will in England, and pays the legacies here, notwithstanding the testator realized and possessed his property in India, resided there, made his will there, and died there; and although the executors were in India at the time of their appointment, and the will was originally proved there. So in *The Attorney General v. Beatson*, (*k*) it was holden by the court of exchequer that the legacy duty is payable on bequests of personal property in India, by a will there, and administration granted under it there, if it be remitted to England, and applied by another administrator in Scotland, under administration granted in England. Again, in *Logan v. Fairlie*, (*l*) Sir John Leach V. C. expressed his opinion, that if a part of the assets of a testator, who at his death was resident in India, and had all his property there, is found in England, in the hands of the agent of his executor, without any specific appropriation, and a legatee in England institute a suit here for the payment of his legacy, out of such unappropriated \*assets, then such assets are to be considered as administered in England, and the legacy duty is payable in respect of them.

But modern decisions appear to have overruled this distinction. And it must be regarded as now fully established, that the personal assets, situate in India, of a testator who resides, and makes his will, and dies in India, are not subject to legacy duty, although such assets are afterwards remitted to this country, by an executor who has proved the will in India, to executors who have proved the will in England, and are administered under a decree of the court of chancery here. Thus, in *Jackson v. Forbes*, (*m*) a testa-

(*j*) 1 Price, 165.

(*l*) 2 Sim. & Stu. 284.

(*k*) 7 Price, 560.

(*m*) 2 Cr. & Jerv. 382.

tor born in Scotland, who resided and died in India, having real and personal property there situate, but no assets in England, by his will and testamentary papers, left the whole of his property in equal divisions to his four natural children, or the survivors of them, and their heirs, subject to legacies and annuities. His executors obtained an Indian probate, and paid the debts and bequests, and converted the principal part of the estate into money which they sent to their bankers in England, and invested it in the funds in their own names. Proceedings were commenced in England against the executors, to determine the claims under the will; whereupon the stock was transferred into the name of the accountant general of the court of chancery, and the court made a decree, ascertaining the shares of the several claimants. And the barons of the exchequer held that the legacy duty was not payable on legacies or shares of the residue bequeathed. And this decision was affirmed in the house of lords. (n) Again, in *Arnold v. Arnold*, (o) a man possessed of personal estates, situate partly in England, but principally in the East Indies, where he was employed in the service of the East India Company, made his will in the \* East Indies, and died there. After specifically bequeathing his property in England to his wife, his will gave considerable pecuniary legacies to his infant children, and to various other persons, some of whom were native inhabitants of India. One of the executors lived in Calcutta, and proved the will there, and having collected the Indian assets, and thereout paid the testator's Indian debts and funeral expenses, he remitted the surplus to England to the other executors, by whom probate of the will, in respect of the property in England, had been already obtained in this country. In a suit instituted in this court by the testator's children against the executors, for the administration of the estate, the fund so remitted was transferred into court, and having proved insufficient to pay the pecuniary legacies in full, it was ultimately ordered to be apportioned among the different legatees, in proportion to their respective legacies. And Lord Cottenham held that the legacy duty was not payable in respect of any of the sums so appropriated to the respective legatees. His lordship considered the decision by the house of lords in *The Attorney*

(n) *Atty. Gen. v. Jackson*, 8 Bligh, 15; (o) 2 My. & Cr. 256.  
*S. C. nomine Atty. Gen. v. Forbes*, 2 Cl. & Fin. 48.

General *v. Jackson* as precisely in point, and conclusive of the case before him. But the learned judge also stated, that independently of that authority, he should, upon the construction of the act (36 Geo. 3, c. 52, s. 2), (*p*) have been of opinion that the legacies in question were not legacies given by the will of a person intended by the act; for when the act speaks of "any will of any person" and of the legacies being payable out of the personal estate, it must be considered as speaking of persons and wills, and personal estates in this country; that being the limit of the sphere of the enactment. (*q*)

\*It may be observed that there were still several questions connected with these authorities, which must not be regarded as not precisely settled by them. Thus, it was undecided, whether property situate abroad, or in this country, belonging to an alien who is domiciled here, is liable to the duty; or whether property, situate in this country, belonging to a British subject who dies domiciled in the British colonies, or domiciled in a foreign country, (*r*) is so liable. In a former edition of this work, the writer ventured to suggest that the principle ought to be applied to these cases (as it appears to have been in the decision of the case *In re Ewin*), (*s*) that personal property follows the person and is to be considered as situate wherever the domicile of the proprietor is; (*t*) and consequently, that if the deceased, whether a British subject or a foreigner, died domiciled in England, all his personal estate, wherever situate, is to be regarded as English estate, and therefore liable. But if he died domiciled out of England, then the whole of his personal property, wherever it happened to be at the time of his death, is to be regarded as situate in the country of domicile, and therefore exempt. This suggestion has been fully justified by the subsequent decision of the house of lords in the

If the deceased, whether a British born subject or a foreigner, died domiciled here, all the assets wherever situate, are liable; if he died domiciled abroad, all are exempt.

(*p*) See *ante*, 1550, 1551, 1552, 1558.

(*q*) The decision in this case must not be understood as at all qualifying the decision of the court of exchequer, *In re Ewin*, *ante*, 1637. On the contrary, it has been lately decided by the barons of the court (*In re Coales*, 7 M. & W. 390) that if a British born subject, domiciled in England, dies here and makes his will here, leaving assets in India, which are admin-

istered by his executor here, they are subject to the legacy duty, notwithstanding they were received in India and remitted to the executor here by an administrator *cum testamento annexo* appointed under an Indian grant of administration.

(*r*) See *Atty. Gen. v. Dunn*, 6 M. & W. 511.

(*s*) *Ante*, 1637.

(*t*) See *ante*, 1515 *et seq.*

case of *Thompson v. The Advocate General*. (u) There a British born subject died domiciled in a British colony. At the time of his death he was possessed of personal property locally situate in Scotland. Probate of his will was taken out in Scotland, for the purpose of there administering this property; and out of the fund thus obtained by the executor, legacies were paid to legatees residing in \* Scotland. And it was held, on the principle above mentioned, that legacy duty was not payable in respect of these legacies. In the course of the discussion of this case, the following question was put by the house to the judges, viz: "A., a British born subject, born in England, resided in a British colony. He made his will, and died domiciled there. At the time of his death, he had debts owing to him in England. His executors in England collected these debts, and out of the money so collected paid legacies to certain legatees in England. The question is, are such legacies liable to the payment of legacy duty?" The judges were unanimously of opinion in the negative. And the house decided accordingly. This case was afterwards regarded by the court of exchequer in the *Attorney General v. Napier*, (v) as having definitely settled the principle above stated; and the barons decided accordingly a converse case; viz: that where the intestate was domiciled in England and the property abroad, it was liable to the duty.

Accordingly it has been held that succession duty is not payable on legacies given by the will of a person domiciled in a foreign country. (w)

So as to  
succession  
duty.

The same principle applies to cases where legacies are given in exercise of powers; for though in such cases the rule that the property follows the person can hardly be applied, yet the statute (36 Geo. 3, c. 52, s. 7) having put into one class legacies given by testators out of personal estate, or out of any personal estate they may have had power to dispose of, could not have intended that a dif-

The rule  
applies to  
legacies  
given in  
exercise of  
powers by  
testator  
domiciled  
out of Eng-  
land:

(u) 12 Cl. & Fin. 1; S. C. 13 Sim. 153, App. 1; *Callanane v. Campbell*, L. R. 11 Eq. Cas. 378. But see *In re Capdevielle*, 2 H. & C. 985; *Atty. Gen. v. Wahlstaff*, 3 H. & C. 374; *In re Badart's Trusts*, L. R. 10 Eq. Cas. 288, *contra*; [*Smithe's Will*, 12 W. R. 933; *Jopp v. Wood*, 4 De G., J. & Sm. 620; 1 *Jarman Wills* (3d Eng. ed.), 2, note (f) and cases cited.]

(v) 6 Ex. 217, 220.

(w) *Wallace v. Atty. Gen.* L. R. 1 Ch. VOL. III. 6

note (f) and cases.]

ferent rule should apply to different members of the class, and that duty should be payable by the appointees under the wills of donees of powers domiciled out of Great Britain, when no \* duty would be payable by legatees under the wills of those persons to <sup>but not to</sup> be paid out of their personal estates. (x) But the rule <sup>succession</sup> <sup>duty.</sup> is different as to succession duty on testamentary appointments under English instruments. (y)

(x) *In re Wallop's Trusts*, 1 De G., J. & Sm. 656.

(y) *Ib.* See, also, *In re Lovelace*, 4 De G. & J. 340.

[1644]

## \* CHAPTER THE THIRD.

## BY WHOM THE DUTIES ARE PAYABLE.

It will be observed, by referring to the statute 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, s. 6, that the duties, in all cases wherein it is not otherwise thereby provided for, must be paid by the executor or administrator, upon retainer for his own benefit, or for the benefit of any other persons, of any legacy or part of any legacy, or of the residue or any part of such residue, which he shall be entitled so to retain; and also upon delivery, payment, or discharge of any legacy or residue, &c. to which any other person shall be entitled. (a) It is the duty of the executors to deduct the legacy duty when they pay the legacy, and if they do not do so, they are made personally responsible. (b)

By the statute 45 Geo. 3, c. 28, s. 5, (c) it is provided that the duties imposed on legacies charged upon, or made payable out of real estate, &c. shall be paid by the trustee or other person entitled to the real estate which is subject to the legacy, and that the duty shall be retained by the person paying such legacy, in like manner as is provided, respecting legacies out of personal estate, by the statute 36 Geo. 3. (d) In the case of *The Attorney General v. Jackson*, before stated, (e) the land out of which the legacy was payable had been devised to two persons in moieties; the one moiety to the one for life, and the other moiety to the other in fee. And the court of exchequer held that both the parties, the tenant for life of the one moiety, and the tenant in fee of \* the other, were liable to the crown for the payment of the legacy duty.

The collection of the succession duty is provided for by the 44th and five following sections of the statute 15 & 16 Vict. c. 51,

(a) See *ante*, 1556.

(b) Per Parke B. In *re Sammon*, 3 M. & W. 386.

(c) See *ante*, 1584.

(d) See *ante*, 1555, 1556.

(e) See *ante*, 1631.

[1645] [1646]

by which that duty is imposed. (*f*) And it will be observed, that by the interpretation clause, (*g*) the term "trustee" is to include an executor or administrator.

It was decided in *Hales v. Freeman*, (*h*) upon the construction of the legacy duty acts, that a trustee under a will, who had paid the legacy duty upon an annuity, charged on land, after the expiration of four years from the death of the testator, might recover the amount of duty so paid from the legatee, notwithstanding a previous assignment of the annuity by such legatee. (*i*)

But a question may arise, whether the legacies are not, by the terms of the will, to be paid in full, free of the legacy duty, so as to make it incumbent on the executor to retain the duty out of the residue, instead of deducting it from the payment to the legatee. (*k*)

In *Barksdale v. Gilliat*, (*l*) the testator directed all the legacies to be paid at the expiration of six months after his decease, *without any deduction*. And Lord Eldon held that the legatees were entitled to the full amount, and that the legacy duty must be paid by the executors. So in *Smith v. Anderson*, (*m*) the testator gave certain annuities, and directed them to be paid *without any deduction whatsoever*. And Sir John Leach M. R. held that the annuities should be paid clear of legacy duty, on the ground that, from the nature of \*the property out of which the annuities were to be paid, there could be no deduction, except in respect of the legacy duty. His honor, in giving judgment said, that he admitted that it was to be stated as the fair result of Lord Eldon's judgment in the above case of *Barksdale v. Gilliat*, that his lordship considered that a direction to pay annuities without deduction would not extend to exempt the annuitants from the legacy duty, if, from the nature of the property out of which the annuities were payable, there was any other deduction to which the annuities might be subject. The correctness, however, of this

(*f*) See *ante*, 1605 *et seq.*

(*g*) See *ante*, 1587.

(*h*) 1 Brod. & Bing. 391; S. C. 4 Moore, 21.

(*i*) This case was recognized and acted on in *Stow v. Davenport*, 5 B. & Ad. 366; *Bate v. Payne*, 13 Q. B. 900. A purchaser from a legatee is not necessarily subject to the same liability as the legatee himself in

this respect. *Farwell v. Seale*, 3 De G. & Sm. 359.

(*k*) In such cases, no duty shall be chargeable on the money to be applied to the payment of the duty. See stat. 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, s. 21, *ante*, 1567.

(*l*) 1 Swanst. 562.

(*m*) 4 Russ. 352.

view of Lord Eldon's judgment was denied by Lord Brougham in *Louch v. Peters*, (*n*) and by Alderson B. in *Gude v. Mumford*. (*o*)

In *Dawkins v. Tatham*, (*p*) an annuity was given by a will *clear of all deductions*, and was directed to be paid out of certain sums of stock standing in the testator's name. And Sir L. Shadwell V. C. held that the executors were bound to pay the legacy, free from the legacy tax.

In *Stow v. Davenport*, (*q*) lands were devised to the use, among others, that M. A. F. should take, from and out of the same premises, an annuity or yearly charge of 500*l.* a year, to be paid *clear of all taxes and deductions*, remainder to S. for life, subject to the annuity. And the court of king's bench held that the annuity was to be paid clear of legacy duty, and was a charge upon the land; and consequently that S., who had entered into possession under the devise to him, and been compelled to pay the legacy duty \* on the annuity, pursuant to 45 Geo. 3, c. 28, s. 5, could not recover it again from the annuitant. (*r*)

Again, in *Louch v. Peters*, (*s*) a testatrix gave to L. for his life an annuity or clear yearly sum of 500*l.*, to be paid and payable half yearly, out of real estate, *clear of all taxes and outgoings*. And it was held by Sir J. Leach M. R., and afterwards by Lord Brougham on appeal, that the annuitant took it clear of the legacy duty.

Further, in *Courtoy v. Vincent*, (*t*) a testator directed his executors and trustees to pay certain annuities and legacies *clear of the property tax*, and *all expenses attending the same*. And it was held by Sir T. Plumer M. R. that the legacy duty ought to be paid out of the assets of the testator, and that the annuitants and

(*n*) *Post*, 1648.

(*o*) *Post*, 1648.

(*p*) 2 Sim. 492. It must be observed, that in the case already mentioned of *Hales v. Freeman*, 1 Brod. & Bing. 391, the court of C. P. held that a legatee, to whom an annuity was given "clear of all deduction," was compellable to refund the amount of the duty. But the point which might have been raised upon the construction of these words does not appear to have been noticed by either the bar or the bench; and the argument and de-

cision proceeded on a totally distinct ground.

(*q*) 5 B. & Ad. 359; S. C. Nev. & M. 805.

(*r*) But where an annuity is given "clear of all taxes and deductions," it is not to be paid free of property or income tax. *Wall v. Wall*, 15 Sim. 513; *Lethbridge v. Thurlow*, 15 Beav. 334. But see *Turner v. Mullineux*, 1 John. & H. 334.

(*s*) 1 My. & K. 489.

(*t*) 1 Turn. & R. 433.



legatees were entitled to receive the full amount of their respective legacies and annuities, without any deductions in respect of legacy duty.

So in *Godsdan v. Dotterill*, (u) a testator bequeathed to his sister a legacy of 100*l.*, to be paid to her *free from all expense*; and it was held by Sir J. Leach M. R. that this legacy was to be paid discharged of duty.

Again, in *Gude v. Mumford*, (v) a testator devised to James Metherell, for his life, "one annuity or *clear* yearly sum of 100*l.*" and charged his estates at Chobham with the payment of "the said annuity or yearly sum of 100*l.*" He then devised the estates at Chobham to trustees, in trust to levy and raise the annuity, and pay the same to James Metherell; and subject thereto, and all costs, charges, and expenses attending the raising and paying the same, in trust for A. for life, with remainder to B. in fee. And Alderson B. held that James Metherell was entitled to the annuity clear of all deductions for legacy duty, and that the residuary \*estate was chargeable with the duty payable thereon. The learned baron observed; that it was clear, from the authorities on the subject, that if, from any directions contained in the will, an intention on the part of the testator can be collected that the legacy duty should be paid by the executor, the court will carry that direction into effect. And the learned judge denied that the view taken by Sir J. Leach, (x) of Lord Eldon's judgment in *Barksdale v. Gilliat*, was correct; but declared his opinion, that the right construction of it was, that Lord Eldon considered the words "without deduction," to mean, in their ordinary sense, "clear of all deduction," and then went on to examine, whether, in the four corners of the will, he could find the same words used in another sense, or in a more definite and limited sense; and whether, if he could find an intention to use them in a limited sense, he could carry that intention into effect; and upon the whole, he arrived at the conclusion, that the words must be used in their ordinary sense without qualification. (y)

But in *Foster v. Ley*, (z) where a testatrix bequeathed property in trust "to pay off the debts of her first husband, as it was her

(u) 1 My. & K. 56.

(v) 2 Y. & Coll. 448.

(x) See *ante*, 1646, 1647.

(y) See, also, accord. *Marris v. Burton*,

11 Sim. 167; *Ford v. Ruxton*, 1 Coll. 403;

*Bailey v. Boulton*, 14 Beav. 595; *Haynes v.*

*Haynes*, 3 De G., M. & G. 590; 19 Beav.

499; *Warbrick v. Varley*, 30 Beav. 241;

In re *Coles's Will*, L. R. 8 Eq. Cas. 271.

(z) 2 Bing. N. S. 269.

will that the same should be discharged," and the moneys remaining unexpended, to her nephew; the court of common pleas held that the creditors ought to pay the legacy duty upon their several debts; and that the matter having been overlooked in an order made by the court of chancery for the payment of the debts, the executors, who had paid the debts in full, and then paid the legacy duty, might recover the amount from the creditors respectively, in an action for money paid to their use.

Again, in *Sanders v. Keddell*, (a) a testatrix gave to trustees such a sum of money as that the annual produce \* thereof, when invested in the funds, would produce the *clear* yearly sum of 500*l.*, upon trust to pay the annual produce to certain of her relations in succession for life, and afterwards, as to one fifth part, upon trust to pay it to M. C. Gascoigne for his life, and after his decease, to any wife who might survive him, during her life, and after the decease of the survivor of them, upon trust for his children. And Sir L. Shadwell V. C. held that the fund was not exempted from legacy duty; for that it appeared, from the language of the will, that the testatrix meant that what she had directed to be done should be done at once; that M. C. Gascoigne might or might not marry a relation of the testatrix, and his children might be related in some degree to the testatrix, or they might not; and, therefore, that the word "clear" must be taken to refer, not to the legacy duty, but to the expenses of investment and so on. (b) And this case was recognized and acted upon by Romilly M. R. in *Pridie v. Field*. (c)

Where one legacy is given by will free of duty, and by a codicil another is given in *substitution* of that given by the will, and upon the same trusts, the substituted legacy is also to be considered as given free from the duty; because, being a mere substitution, it is *prima facie* attended with the same incidents. So where a subsequent addition is made to a prior legacy, the addition will have the same qualities. (d)

(a) 7 Sim. 536.

(b) In this case the testator did not use the words "clear of all deductions," and besides, the parties were to take in succession. 11 Sim. 163, per Shadwell V. C. Where a legacy, the fund being in court, was assigned by a deed which represented that it was *unincumbered*, it was

held that the legacy duty did not constitute an "incumbrance." *Bliss v. Putnam*, 7 Beav. 40.

(c) 19 Beav. 497.

(d) By Sir J. Leach V. C. 6 Madd. 31. See the cases collected, *ante*, 1295, 1296, note (h); *post*, 1651, note (i).

Thus, in *Cooper v. Day*, (e) the testator gave to his widow 800*l.*, payable within three months from his death, and free from legacy duty. He also gave 4,000*l.* to trustees, payable to them within the same period, free from legacy duty, in trust for his two daughters, to be paid at twenty-one, with \*intermediate interest for their maintenance. By a codicil, the testator bequeathed to his wife an additional sum of 200*l.*, free from legacy duty. He also revoked the legacy of 4,000*l.*, and in substitution gave in trust for his daughters 5,000*l.*, "upon the trusts, and to and for the same intents and purposes, and under and subject to the same powers, provisos, and limitations as expressed in his will concerning the legacy of 4,000*l.*" By a second codicil the testator revoked the gift of 5,000*l.*, and gave in its place 6,000*l.* to the same trustees, upon the trusts, &c. following the words in the first codicil. The only question was, whether the legacy of 6,000*l.* was to be paid free of the legacy duty. And Sir William Grant declared, upon the authority of the cases of *Leacroft v. Maynard*, (f) and *Crowder v. Clowes*, (g) that the substituted legacy of 6,000*l.* was to be taken as exempted from the legacy duty, in like manner with the original legacy, in the place of which it was given. So in *Shaftesbury v. Marlborough*, (h) a testator by his will gave an annuity to his grandson, and directed the executors to pay the legacy duty on all the legacies and annuities given by his will. By a codicil, he gave an annuity to his grandson *in lieu* of the annuity given by his will. And Sir L. Shadwell V. C. held that the annuity given by the codicil was free from legacy duty; his honor observing, that when the thing bequeathed by a codicil is given as a mere substitution for that which is bequeathed by the will, it is to be taken with all its accidents. (i)

But in *Chatteris v. Young*, (j) the testator bequeathed to his daughter 50,000*l.*, of which 20,000*l.* was to be paid to her absolutely, and, as to the remaining 30,000*l.* she was to receive the interest to her separate use during her life, and, after her death, the principal was to be paid to such person \*or persons as she might by her will appoint; and, after giving various other lega-

(e) 3 Meriv. 154.

(f) 3 Bro. C. C. 233; S. C. 1 Ves. jr. 279.

(g) 2 Ves. jr. 449, 450.

(h) 7 Sim. 237.

(i) See, also, accord. *Fisher v. Brierley*, 30 Beav. 267; *Johnstone v. Lord Harrowby*, 1 De G., F. & J. 428, overruling S. C. *Johns.* 425.

(j) 2 Russ. 183.

cies, and bequeathing to the same daughter a share of the residue of his personal estate, he directed that all the specific and pecuniary legacies thereinbefore bequeathed should be paid to the respective legatees free of the legacy duty. The daughter having died in his lifetime, he afterwards, by a codicil, "instead of the legacies given to her by my will, which are now lapsed," bequeathed to her husband 20,000*l*. Sir John Leach V. C. decreed (*k*) that the husband was not entitled to have the 20,000*l*. paid to him free of legacy duty. And upon appeal to the lord chancellor, his lordship (Lord Lyndhurst) was of opinion that the legacy given to the husband by the codicil could not be considered as given by way of substitution for the legacy which the will had destined for his wife, but was an independent, distinct, substantive bequest. He therefore confirmed the judgment of the vice chancellor, and dismissed the appeal. (*l*)

In *Byne v. Currey*, (*m*) a testator, by his will, bequeathed certain legacies to charitable institutions, and directed that they should be paid as follows: "Which charitable legacies I direct may be paid out of my personal estate, prior to the payment of my debts, and the said legacies hereby by me given and bequeathed." He then directed "all his legacies to be paid within two years after his decease, free of any deduction for tax or duty." By a codicil, he bequeathed legacies payable and raisable immediately. And the court of exchequer held that the charitable legacies, and the legacies given by the codicil raisable immediately, were payable free from legacy duty. (*n*)

In *Douglas v. Congreve*, (*o*) a testator gave to M. S. 50,000*l*. three per cent. consols, to be transferred within \*six months after his decease, and, after giving a variety of specific and pecuniary legacies, he directed that the duty upon all the pecuniary legacies thereinbefore bequeathed should be paid out of his general personal estate. And Lord Langdale M. R. held that the legacy of the stock was not a pecuniary legacy, and consequently not exempted under this clause of the will from the payment of legacy duty.

(*k*) 6 Madd. 30.

(*n*) See accord. *Williams v. Hughes*, 24

(*l*) See, also, *Burrows v. Cottrell*, 3 Sim. Beav. 474.

375; *Early v. Benbow*, *ante*, 9, note (*u*). (*o*) 1 Keen, 410.

(*m*) 2 Cr. & M. 603; S. C. 4 Tyrwh.

In *White v. Lake*, (*p*) a testator gave several pecuniary and specific legacies, and directed that "all legacies and bequests" by his will given, should be paid or satisfied free of duty, and he devised his residuary real estate to A. for life, and afterwards upon trust for sale; and Lord Romilly M. R. held, upon the ordinary meaning of the words "legacies and bequests," and also upon the general construction of the will, that the legacy duty which would become payable on the proceeds of the real estate, was not payable out of the personal estate.

In *Lord Londesborough v. Somerville*, (*q*) the testator directed legacy duty to be paid out of his general personal estate on the annuities and pecuniary legacies given by the will. And it was held by Romilly M. R. that the income of residuary uninvested personal estate directed to be invested in land and settled to uses, was not an annuity within such direction. (*r*)

\* In *Noel v. Lord Henley*, (*s*) a legacy was bequeathed to be paid out of the rents and profits, and the produce of the sale of a real estate devised to be sold for the payment of such legacy, *inter alia*. In a subsequent part of the will, this legacy was directed by a general clause, extending to all the legacies before given, to be paid in full, free of the duty. And the court of exchequer held that the duty on that particular legacy must be paid out of the real fund, and not out of the personalty; the exemption from the duty being an augmentation of the legacy, and therefore payable out of the specific fund. (*t*)

(*p*) L. R. 6 Eq. Cas. 188.

(*q*) 19 Beav. 295.

(*r*) In *Calvert v. Selbon*, 2 Keen, 672, a testator bequeathed some specific chattels and a sum of 200*l.* to A., and he directed his executors to invest in the funds such a sum as would produce 200*l.* a year, clear of the legacy duty, and all other deductions, which annual sum was to be paid to A. for her life, and after her decease the principal was to be paid to other parties; and the testator directed his executors to pay the legacy duty on the specific and pecuniary legacies and yearly sum given to A.; A., and the legatees in remainder.

Exemption of legatee for life extended to legatee in remainder.

were strangers in blood to the testator; so that the same rate of duty was chargeable on the whole bequest, and the full amount of the duty payable at once (see *ante*, 1561, 1562). And Lord Langdale M. R. held that the legacy duty was payable out of the testator's residuary estate, both in respect to the interest given to A., and to those in remainder; inasmuch as the residuary legatee could not on A.'s death call back any part of the duty that had been paid.

(*s*) 7 Price, 241; S. C. in Dom. Proc. 12 Price, 213.

(*t*) See, also, *Stow v. Davenport*, *ante*, 1647.

## \* PART THE FOURTH.

OF THE LIABILITIES OF AN EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR.

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### BOOK THE FIRST.

#### OF ASSETS.

HAVING investigated in a former part of this work the quantity of the estate which devolves to an executor or administrator, it remains, 1st, to consider what portion of that property is regarded in law as applicable by him to the satisfaction of the different claimants on the estate in his hands, as well upon valuable consideration as volunteers; and 2dly, to complete the examination already commenced in an earlier stage of this treatise, (a) of the order in which that application must be made, with reference to the priority subsisting among the claimants.

The property which will be the subject of these two inquiries, is called *assets* in the hands of the executor or administrator, that is, sufficient, from the French *assez*, to make him chargeable to a creditor, and a legatee or party in distribution, so far as such property extends.

This portion of the estate of the deceased is sometimes designated by the older writers by the term "*assets enter mains*," in contradistinction to "*assets per descent*," by which last expression is denoted that portion which descends to the heir, and which is sufficient to charge him, as far as it goes, with specialty debts of his ancestor.

(a) *Ante*, 988 *et seq.*

## \*CHAPTER THE FIRST.

## OF PERSONAL ASSETS, LEGAL OR EQUITABLE.

THE general rule, with respect to what shall be said to be assets in the hands of an executor or administrator to charge him, is thus laid down in a book of authority. (b) "All those goods and chattels, actions and commodities, which were of the deceased in right of action or possession as his own, and so continued to the time of his death, and which after his death the executor or administrator doth get into his hands as duly belonging to him in the right of his executorship or administratorship, and all such things as do come to the executor or administrator in lieu or by reason of that, and nothing else, shall be said to be assets in the hands of the executor or administrator to make him chargeable to a creditor or legatee." (b<sup>1</sup>)

(b) Touchst. 496.

(b<sup>1</sup>) [De Valengin v. Duffy, 14 Peters, 282; Montgomery v. Armstrong, 5 J. J. Marsh. 175; Paff v. Kinney, 1 Bradf. Sur. 1; Gray v. Swain, 2 Hawks, 15. Money received by an executor or administrator from the government of the United States, by means of a treaty with a foreign nation, as an indemnity for loss of property taken from the deceased by such foreign nation, is to be administered as assets of the estate of the deceased. Foster v. Fifield, 20 Pick. 67; Thurston v. Doane, 47 Maine, 79; De Valengin v. Duffy, 14 Peters, 282; Rogers v. Hosack, 18 Wend. 319; Thurston v. Lowder, 40 Maine, 197. Interest collected on debts due the estate is assets. Ray v. Doughty, 4 Blackf. 115. As to letters received by the testator or intestate, *post*, 1900, and note. An administrator should not be charged with sums advanced by the intestate. French v. Davis, 38 Miss. 167. Advancements are not assets to be administered upon. See *ante*, 1498, note (h),

1502, note (a). As to rents accruing before, and rents accruing after, the death of the testator or intestate, see *ante*, 817, and note (c<sup>1</sup>), and cases cited, 820, and note (o). Debts due to the estate of a testator, from the executor named in his will, and from a firm of which he is a member, are to be treated and accounted for as assets; and so as to debts due the estate from a person appointed administrator of the intestate. See *ante*, 1310, notes (i) and (k<sup>1</sup>), and cases there cited. In Massachusetts, when the personal estate of the deceased is insufficient to pay his debts and the charges of administration, the real estate left by him, so far as necessary, may be sold for that purpose, by the executor or administrator, under license from the probate court; and the proceeds of the real estate so sold shall be deemed assets in the hands of the executor or administrator in like manner as if the same had originally been part of the goods and chattels of the deceased. Genl. Sta. c. 96, §§ 7, 8. See, further, *ante*, 650, note (d<sup>1</sup>); Whitney v. Whitney, 14 Mass. 88;

There are many instances in which property in the hands of an executor is regarded as assets, although it was never in the testator. Thus, if an executor renew a lease, he shall account for the new lease, as well as the old, as assets. (c) So if A. covenants with B. to make him a lease of certain land, by such a day, and B. dies before the day, and before any lease made, A. is bound to make the lease to the executor of B., and the lease so made shall be assets in his hands; or if A. refuses to grant the lease, he is liable to make the executor a compensation in damages, which are also assets. (d) \* So, if A. promises, on good consideration, to deliver to B. by such a day certain wares or merchandises, and this is not performed in the life of B., but delivery is made to his executor, the goods will be assets in his hands, as well as the money recovered in damages for not performing would have been. (e)

*Leverett v. Armstrong*, 15 Mass. 26; *Dean v. Dean*, 3 Mass. 258; *Drinkwater v. Drinkwater*, 4 Mass. 353; *Haines v. Price*, 1 Spencer, 480; *Vanscyckle v. Richardson*, 13 Ill. 171. Mortgaged premises and the debt secured thereby are to be considered personal assets in the hands of the executor or administrator of the deceased mortgagee, or of the deceased assignee of such mortgagee. *Genl. Sta. Mass. c. 96, § 9; ante*, 650, note (d<sup>1</sup>), 687, note (z). As to the power of an executor or administrator over real estate held by him in mortgage, or taken by him on execution for a debt due the deceased, both before and after the right of redemption is foreclosed, see *ante*, 650, note (d<sup>1</sup>). As to lands descended, or personal property found in another state, see *Austin v. Gage*, 9 Mass. 395; *Governor v. Williams*, 3 Ired. 52; *Peck v. Mead*, 2 Wend. 470; *post*, 1661. As to buildings erected by the intestate on the land of his wife or another person, see *Washburn v. Sproat*, 16 Mass. 449. As to leases for years, see *ante*, 673. The price of real estate received by the administrator from a sale ordered for the payment of debts is assets. *Vaughan v. Deloatch*, 65 N. Car. 378. Railroad stock is personal assets. *South Western R. R. Co. v. Thomason*, 41 Geo. 408.]

(c) *Anon.* 2 Chanc. Cas. 208; *Bromfield*

*v. Chichester*, 2 Dick. 480; *James v. Dean*, 11 Ves. 392; *Randall v. Russell*, 3 Meriv. 190. See, also, *Fitzroy v. Howard*, 3 Russ. 225; *Giddings v. Giddings*, Ib. 241; *Fosbrooke v. Balguy*, 1 My. & K. 226.

(d) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 188, 14th ed.; *Chapman v. Dalton*, *Plowd.* 286; *Com. Dig. Assets, C.* [Damages assessed in favor of the owner of land through which a highway had been laid out during the owner's lifetime, but which were not payable until a future day, which occurred after the owner's death, are assets in the hands of his executor. *Welles v. Cowles*, 4 Conn. 182; *Goodwin v. Milton*, 25 N. H. 458; *Astor v. Hoyt*, 5 Wend. 603. See *Neal v. Knox & Co. R. R. Co.* 61 Maine, 298. Salary voted to a person after his decease, and paid to his executor, is assets of the estate in his hands. *Loring v. Cunningham*, 9 Cush. 87. A dividend of tolls collected by a turnpike company, before the death of a stockholder, is personal estate in the hands of his executor. *Welles v. Cowles*, 4 Conn. 182. Money recovered upon an appeal bond, given to the obligees as executors, on an appeal from a judgment obtained by them in that character, will be assets in their hands. *Sasser v. Walker*, 5 Gill & J. 102.]

(e) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 188, 14th ed.; *Com. Dig. Assets, C.*



Again, chattels which were never vested in the testator in possession, but accrue to the executor by remainder, will be assets in his hands. Thus, if a lease be made to one for life, remainder to his executor for years, (*f*) such remainder will be assets in the hands of the executor, though it were never in the testator. (*g*) So, where a lease for years is bequeathed to A. for life, and afterwards to B., who dies before A., although B. never had this term in him, it shall be assets in the hands of his executor. (*h*) So, a remainder in a term for years, though it never vested in the testator's possession, and though it still continue a remainder, shall be assets in the hands of the executor; for it bears a present value, and is vendible. (*i*)

So, goods which have accrued by increase since the testator's death are assets in the hands of the executor. (*i*<sup>1</sup>) Thus, by increase: if the sheep or other cattle of the testator bear lambs, &c. after the testator's death, these, although never the property of the testator, will be assets. (*j*) So, if the executor of a lessee for years enter into the tenements, the profits, over and above the rent, shall be assets. (*k*) Therefore, if an executor has a lease for years of land of the value of 20*l.* a year, rendering rent of 10*l.* a year, it is assets in his hands only for 10*l.* over and above the rent. (*l*) Again, if an \*executor employ the testator's goods in trade, the profits shall be assets. (*m*) And whether the executor takes upon himself to carry on the testator's trade, or does so in pursuance of a provision in articles of partnership entered into by

(*f*) See *ante*, 697 *et seq.*

(*g*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 189, 14th ed.; Com. Dig. Assets, C.

(*h*) *Ib.*

(*i*) *Ib.* [See *Whitney v. Whitney*, 14 Mass. 88; *Leverett v. Armstrong*, 15 Mass. 26.]

(*i*<sup>1</sup>) [*Post*, 1966, note (*t*). Any savings or accumulations out of the estate, by an executor or administrator, become assets, to be dealt with as other assets are. *Wingate v. Pool*, 25 Ill. 118; *Genl. Sts. Mass.* c. 98, § 2. This applies to interest received by him, and also revenues of the estate confided to him. *Soldini v. Hyams*, 15 La. Ann. 551.]

(*j*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 190, 14th ed.

(*k*) *Buckley v. Pirk*, 1 Salk. 79; *Went.*

Off. Ex. 190, 191, 14th ed.; [*Stagg v. Jackson*, 1 Comst. 206.] But the profits, as far as the amount of the rent, are received by the executor as tenant, and appropriated to the use of the lessor. 1 Salk. 79. See *post*, pt. iv. bk. ii. ch. i. § 11.

(*l*) *Body v. Hargrave*, Cro. Eliz. 712; *Godolph.* pt. 2, c. 24, s. 1. A leasehold estate, though not sold, is assets *ad valorem*. *Jury v. Woodhouse*, Barnes, 333; *Vincent v. Sharpe*, 2 Stark. 507.

(*m*) *Godolph.* pt. 2, c. 24, s. 4; *Com. Dig. Assets, C.* See *infra*, pt. iv. bk. ii. ch. ii. § 11; [*post*, 1841, 1842. An executor or an administrator will not be suffered to speculate on the estate. *Kellar v. Belor*, 5 T. B. Mon. 573.]

the deceased, (*n*) or by direction of the testator, contained in his will, or under the direction of the court of chancery, the profits of such trade shall be assets, for which he shall be accountable. Thus, in *Gibblett v. Read*, (*o*) Lord Hardwicke held that a share in a newspaper should be considered as the personal property of the deceased, transmissible to his representatives, and that the profits of printing the same subsequent to his death should be distributed accordingly. And his lordship said that there were many cases where no part of the property of a testator had been employed or made use of in carrying on the business, and yet the executor had been held accountable for the profits of the business, as the testator's personal estate; (*p*) as in the instance of physical secrets or nostrums, where everything was carried on with materials purchased after the testator's death, and yet the nostrum was part of the personal estate of the testator. (*q*) \* So, in *Pitt v.*

(*n*) Generally speaking, the death of a partner, of itself, dissolves the partnership. *Vulliamy v. Noble*, 3 Meriv. 614; [*Murray v. Mumford*, 6 Cowen, 441; *Canfield v. Hard*, 6 Conn. 184; *Burwell v. Mandeville*, 2 How. (U. S.) 560; *Knapp v. M'Bride*, 7 Ala. 19; *Ames v. Downing*, 1 Bradf. Sur. 321; *Scholesfield v. Eichelberger*, 7 Peters, 586, 594; *Dyer v. Clark*, 5 Met. 575; *Martlett v. Jackman*, 3 Allen, 287.] And even where the partners have covenanted that they and their respective executors shall continue partners for a certain time yet unexpired, the executors of the late partner are entitled to a decree for a dissolution, subject to their liability to damages, recoverable in an action by the surviving partners, for a breach of the covenant. *Downs v. Collins*, 6 Hare, 418.

• (*o*) 9 Mod. 459.

(*p*) See, also, *Moseley v. Rendell*, L. R. 6 Q. B. 338; *Abbott v. Parfitt*, L. R. 6 Q. B. 346.

(*q*) His lordship further observed, that if the house of the testator were a house of great trade, the executor must account for the value of what is called the goodwill of it. See, also, *Worral v. Hand*, Peake N. P. C. 74, acc. So an assignment by deed

of the goodwill of a trade has been held to be a conveyance of "property" within the stamp act. *Potter v. Commissioners of Inland Revenue*, 10 Ex. 147. But in *Spicer v. James*, Rolls, M. T. 1830, cited in *Collyer on Partnership*, 82, where an attorney having died intestate, another attorney, a friend of the family, by arrangement with the widow, took out administration, and continued the business of the deceased until her son came of age, paying the widow half the profits; Sir J. Leach held that the goodwill of a trade of a personal nature, as that of an attorney, was not a subject of administration, and was not assets in the hands of the administrator. [See, however, *contra*, *Smale v. Graves*, 3 De G. & Sm. 706.] With respect to the goodwill of a business, in which several are partners, it seems that as to a partnership between professional persons, on the death of one, the goodwill shall survive to the other, although the deceased paid a large premium on entering into the partnership. *Farr v. Pearce*, 3 Madd. 78. But whether this survivorship of the goodwill exists in the case of commercial partnerships has been questioned. In *Hammond v. Douglass*, 5 Ves. 539, Lord Loughborough determined that

[1659]

Pitt, (*r*) the administratrix of a deceased ropemaker in the king's yard at Woolwich was cited in the prerogative court of Canterbury, to exhibit an inventory and account. The deceased had four apprentices; and the question was, whether the administratrix was bound to insert in the inventory the amount of the wages earned by them, in the yard of the deceased, since his death. And Sir G. Lee was clearly of opinion that she, who did not belong to the yard, could have apprentices there only as administratrix to the deceased; and the learned judge accordingly \*decreed her to charge herself with the profits arising from the apprentices.

So chattels, real or personal, to which the executor becomes by condition: entitled, after the death of the testator, by force of a condition, will be assets. As where a lease for years, or cattle, plate, or other chattel, was granted by the testator, upon condition that if the grantee did not pay such a sum of money, or do other acts, &c. and this condition is broken or not performed after the testator's death, the chattel will be brought back to the executor, and be assets. (*s*) The law is the same where the condition is that the testator shall pay money or do any other act to avoid the grant. Accordingly, it has been decided that chattels, whether real or personal, mortgaged or pledged by the testator, and redeemed by the executor, shall be assets in the hands of the executor, for so much as they are worth beyond the sum paid on their redemption. (*t*) And it was held

the goodwill of a trade carried on in partnership without articles, survives, and is not partnership stock. But in *Crawshay v. Collins*, 15 Ves. 227, Lord Eldon doubted the propriety of that decision. See, also, *Featherstonhaugh v. Fenwick*, 17 Ves. 298; *Wedderburn v. Wedderburn*, 22 Beav. 84, 104, in which last case it was laid down by Romilly M. R. that the goodwill does not survive unless by express agreement. See, also, accord. *Smith v. Everett*, 27 Beav. 446. But though these cases establish that the goodwill is a valuable and tangible thing in some cases, yet the legatees of the share of the mere goodwill of a deceased partner cannot support a bill against the surviv-

ing partner to obtain the benefit of his legacy, even after assent by the executor. *Robertson v. Quiddington*, 28 Beav. 529. In a suit for the general administration of assets, if it be ascertained that the executors have been able so to deal with the business as to make something of the goodwill, the legatee may have a right to be paid in respect of his interest in it. *Ib.* Other cases on the subject of the goodwill of a partnership business will be found collected and commented on in the *Jurist* of December 2, 1865.

(*r*) 2 Cas. temp. Lee, 508.

(*s*) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 181, 14th ed. [See *ante*, 1656, note (*b*<sup>1</sup>).]

(*t*) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 182, 14th ed.;

at N. P. by Abbott C. J. (*u*) that a lease which belonged to an intestate, upon which the plaintiff had a lien, on account of which he retained it in his hands, was nevertheless to be considered as assets in the hands of the administrator, who had the power to redeem it. But if the executor redeem with his own money the goods \* pledged by the testator, he shall be indemnified in respect to the sum he has disbursed out of the effects of the testator, or, if necessary, by the sale of the chattel itself; and in that case the surplus over and above such indemnity shall be assets. (*x*) In case he have no fund as executor, and he advance the money out of his own purse for the redemption, and it be fully equivalent to the value of the chattel, the property is altered by such payment, and shall be vested in the executor as a purchaser in his own right. (*y*) But if the executor redeem the chattel after the time specified for redemption is elapsed, then it is said that the chattel, without any distinction in respect to its value, shall at law belong to the executor in his own right; since in such case it must be deemed to be sold to him by the mortgagee or pawnee, who, after the forfeiture is incurred, has a legal right to dispose of it at his pleasure to him, or to any other person. But in equity the excess in the value of the thing beyond the money paid for the redemption shall be regarded as assets in the hands of the executor. (*z*)

"Assets in any part of the world," says the author of the Touchstone, (*a*) "shall be said to be assets in every part of the world." So it was laid down by Lord Lyndhurst, in delivering the judgment of the barons of the ex-  
property of the testator shall be assets in whatever

**Hawkins v. Lawse**, 1 Leon. 155; **Harcourt v. Wrennan**, or **Harwood v. Wrayman**, Moore, 858; 1 Roll. Rep. 56, pl. 32; 1 Brownl. 76; 1 Roll. Abr. 920, G. pl. 5; **Alexander v. Lady Gresham**, 1 Leon. 225. A testator being indebted to R., deposited with him a policy of insurance on the testator's life, as security for the debt, and for a further advance then made by R.; and died, leaving R. and M. his executors. R., still holding the policy, applied to the insurers for the amount due on it (200*l.*), which they refused to pay unless R. and M. gave a receipt for it as executors. They did so, R. making protest that he signed as executor, merely to satisfy the

insurers. In an action by a judgment creditor, the executors pleaded *plene administraverunt* except as to 4*l.* (the surplus out of the 200*l.* after payment to R.). And the court of K. B. held that the executors were not chargeable with the 200*l.* as assets, but only with the surplus after payment to R. **Glaholm v. Rowntree**, 6 Ad. & El. 710.

(*u*) **Vincent v. Sharp**, 2 Stark. N. P. C. 507.

(*x*) **Wentw. Off. Ex.** 182, 14th ed.

(*y*) **Anon. Dyer**, 2 *a*, pl. 3; **Wentw. Off. Ex.** 182, 14th ed.

(*z*) **Wentw. Off. Ex.** 186, 187, 14th ed.

(*a*) **Touchst.** 496.

part of the world they are situate: chequer in *The Attorney General v. Dimond*, (*b*) that "the effects of the testator are assets wherever situated, whether at home or abroad; and such effects as are in a foreign country at the time of the testator's death, although they remain and are wholly administered there by the executor, are equally assets. Again, it was laid down by Bayley B. in the case *In re Ewin*, (*c*) that if the testator or intestate dies entitled to stock in the French or other foreign funds, and there is a deficiency of \*assets in this country to meet the debts of the deceased, it is the duty of the executor or administrator to sell the stock, and bring the proceeds into this country, in order to satisfy the creditors; and if he neglects to do so, he will be guilty of a *devastavit*. (*d*) Accordingly, as early as the reign of James 1, in *Dowdale's case*, (*e*) where the jury found that assets within the kingdom of Ireland came to the hands of the executor, it was resolved that the finding the assets to be beyond sea, was surplusage; for that if executors have goods of their testators in any part of the world, they shall be charged in respect of them; since many merchants and other men, who have goods to a great value beyond sea, are indebted here in England; and it would be a great defect in the law, that those goods should not be liable to their debts. (*e*<sup>1</sup>)

But this doctrine has been questioned. In *Story's Conflict of Laws*, (*f*) that eminent writer, in commenting on the resolution in *Dowdale's case*, says, "This language, in its broad import, is certainly unmaintainable in our day; for it goes to the extent of making a domestic executor or administrator liable for all assets of the testator or intestate which are locally situate abroad; although (as it has appeared in an earlier part of this work), (*g*) he has not, in virtue of the domestic letters of administration, any

(*b*) 1 Cr. & Jerv. 370; S. C. 1 Tyrwh. 258; [*Atty. Gen. v. Bouwens*, 4 M. & W. 191, 192.]

(*c*) 11 Cr. & Jerv. 157; S. C. 1 Tyrwh. 107.

(*d*) So it has been laid down that a leasehold estate for years in Ireland is personal assets in England, and may be sold here by the executor. *Bligh v. Lord Darnley*, 2 P. Wms. 622. And where there was a question as to the quality of an estate in land situate in a foreign country, the court of chancery referred it

to a master, to inquire whether the testator's interest in it was in its nature real or personal. *Gardiner v. Fell*, 1 Jac. & W. 24.

(*e*) 6 Co. 47 *b*; S. C. Cro. Jac. 55.

(*e*<sup>1</sup>) [*Lord Abinger C. B.* in *Atty. Gen. v. Bouwens*, 4 M. & W. 171, 191, 192; *Bell J.* in *Taylor v. Barron*, 35 N. H. 484, 494; *post*, 1663, and notes (*g*<sup>1</sup>) and (*h*<sup>1</sup>).]

(*f*) Ch. xiii. s. 514 *a*.

(*g*) See *ante*, 364, 429; [*Stevens v. Gaylord*, 11 Mass. 256.]

authority to collect them, or to compel payment or delivery thereof to himself." (*g*<sup>1</sup>)

In Dowdale's case, it will be observed, the foreign assets had actually come to the hands of the executor; so that the more general question, embraced by the terms of the resolution, did not, in truth, arise. But Mr. Justice Story doubts \* the authority of the case, even in the aspect which the actual facts of it present; observing that according to the doctrine maintained in England in modern times, the executor was not at all liable to be sued in England as executor under letters testamentary taken out in Ireland; and *à fortiori* not for assets received and administered in Ireland under that appointment. And that learned commentator considers it as at least a doubtful question, whether if an executor or administrator, appointed in the country where the deceased died, should collect assets in a foreign country without obtaining a grant of administration there, the assets so received would constitute a part of the home assets which he would be bound to administer, and for which he would be liable to account under the domestic administration according to the domestic laws. (*g*<sup>2</sup>)

(*g*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Tunstall v. Pollard*, 11 Leigh, 1.]

(*g*<sup>2</sup>) [Story Confli. Laws, § 514 *a*; *ante*, 362, note (*u*); *Morrill v. Morrill*, 1 Allen, 132; *Smith v. Smith*, 13 Ala. 329; *Taylor v. Barron*, 35 N. H. 496, points stated and cases cited. In *Atty. Gen. v. Bouwens*, 4 M. & W. 192, Lord Abinger C.B. said: "It is clear that the ordinary could administer all chattels within his jurisdiction; and if an instrument is created of a chattel nature, capable of being transferred by acts done here, and sold for money here, there is no reason why the ordinary or his appointee should not administer that species of property. Such an instrument is in effect a salable chattel, and follows the nature of other chattels as to the jurisdiction to grant probate. Let us suppose a case of a person dying abroad, all whose property in England consists of foreign bills of exchange, payable to order, which bills of exchange are well known to be the subject of commerce, and to be usually sold on the royal exchange. The only act of administration

which his administrator could perform here would be to sell the bills and apply the money to the payment of his debts. In order to make titles to the bills to the vendee, he must have letters of administration; in order to sue in trover for them, if they are improperly withheld from him, he must have letters of administration," &c. See *Willing v. Perot*, 5 Rawle, 264; *Shaw C. J. in Hutchins v. State Bank*, 12 Met. 421, 426. Notes are merely evidence of indebtedness; the property they represent is in the jurisdiction where the debtor is, not where the notes are. *Owen v. Miller*, 10 Ohio St. 136; *Slocum v. Sanford*, 2 Conn. 533; *Kohler v. Knapp*, 1 Bradf. Sur. 241. And it has been held that where the debtor and creditor reside in different states at the time of the death of the creditor, a payment made by the debtor in his own state, to the foreign administrator, is no bar to an action for the same debt, brought by a domestic administrator subsequently appointed. *Young v. O'Neil*, 3 Sneed (Tenn.), 55. It has been held that an executor or administra-

It has certainly been established (as there has already been occasion to show), (*h*) that although where different administrations are granted in different countries, that administration is deemed the principal or primary one which is granted in the country of the domicile of the deceased, (*h*<sup>1</sup>) yet each portion of the estate must be administered in the country in which possession of it is taken and held under lawful authority. (*h*<sup>2</sup>) And that the administrator under a foreign grant has a right to hold the assets received under it against the home administrator, even after they have been remitted to this country. (*i*) The only mode, it seems,

tor is not chargeable in one state with moneys received for rents and profits of real estate in another state. *Morrill v. Morrill*, 1 Allen, 132; *Smith v. Smith*, 13 Ala. 329.]

(*h*) *Ante*, 430, 431.

(*h*<sup>1</sup>) [*Leonard v. Putnam*, 51 N. H. 247; *ante*, 430, note (*g*); *post*, 1664, note (*l*<sup>1</sup>). The administrator appointed at the place of domicile of the deceased is the principal administrator; and personal securities, in the possession and control of the intestate at the time of his decease, vest in him. He can do no legal act for their collection in another jurisdiction without an ancillary appointment there. And if another has already been appointed auxiliary administrator, the collection can be made, within that jurisdiction, only through him. But the principal administrator may always dispose of or collect such securities, if he can do so without being obliged to resort to the domicile of the debtor. *Hutchins v. State Bank*, 12 Met. 421, 425, 426; *Trecothick v. Austin*, 4 Mason, 33. Having possession of, and a legal title to the instrument, or evidence of the demand, and finding the debtor or his property within the jurisdiction of his appointment, he may enforce it there, without the necessity of any resort to the foreign jurisdiction. The debtor is equally responsible in either, if means of enforcing payment can be reached. *Wells J. in Merrill v. New England Mut. Life Ins. Co.* 103 Mass. 245, 248. See *ante*, 362, note (*u*).]

(*h*<sup>2</sup>) [See *Keaton v. Campbell*, 2 Humph.

224. Property legally situated within one state at the time of the death of the testator or intestate, and already disposed of and administered in its courts by its laws, cannot be affected by administration or the want of it in another state to which a legatee carries it after being delivered to him by order of the probate court. *Wells v. Wells*, 35 Miss. 638; *Suarez v. The Mayor &c.* 2 Sandf. Ch. 173; *ante*, 433, note (*g*).]

(*i*) *Ante*, 430, 431, 433, 1517; *Story's Confli. ch. xlii. s. 518*; [*Carmichael v. Ray*, 5 Ired. Eq. 365; *Taylor v. Barron*, 35 N. H. 496; *ante*, 362, note (*u*); *Williams v. Williams*, 5 Md. 467.] See, however, *Sandiland v. Innes*, 3 Sim. 263. In that case it appeared that Erskine Nimmo died intestate at Madras; and William Fairlie, a creditor of the deceased, took out letters of administration to him in the supreme court there. Fairlie afterwards came to England, and obtained letters from the prerogative court of Canterbury. Afterwards, one of the intestate's next of kin procured the latter administration to be revoked, and letters to be granted to himself. He then filed a bill against Fairlie, praying for an account of the effects of the intestate, both in India and in this country, which had been possessed by Fairlie. It was objected, that the bill being filed by the plaintiff in the character of personal representative only of the deceased, and not also as one of the next of kin, he was not entitled to sue for an account of the assets of the deceased possessed by Fairlie in India, but only of

of reaching such \*assets is to require their transmission or distribution, after all the claims against the foreign administration have been duly ascertained or settled. (*k*) Again, though the right of the home executor or administrator to an ancillary probate or grant of administration in a foreign country is usually admitted, by the comity of nations, as a matter of course, (*l*) yet this new administration is made subservient to the rights of creditors and other claimants resident within the country where it is granted; (*l'*) and the *residuum* is transmissible to the country of

the assets possessed by him in this country. Sir L. Shadwell V. C. said that if Fairlie had brought any of the intestate's assets from India to this country, the plaintiff would clearly be entitled to have an account taken as to them; and that the taking of that account would, incidentally, made it necessary to have an account taken of all the assets possessed by Fairlie or his agents in India. See, also, *Hervey v. Fitzpatrick*, Kay, 421; *ante*, 433; *MacIaren v. Stainton*, 16 Beav. 279.

(*k*) Story's Conf. ch. xiii. s. 518; *ante*, 990. [If, after the payment of debts, and expenses in the place of ancillary administration, there is a surplus remaining in the hands of the ancillary administrator, the tribunal in which the ancillary proceedings are pending will order him to pay it over to the executor or principal administrator; the only way in which the principal and ancillary administrators can legally have any dealings with each other will be under such an order. It is in effect the only way in which they can know each other officially. *Chapman J. in Low v. Bartlett*, 8 Allen, 259, 263, 266; *Probate Court v. Kimball*, 42 Vt. 320. See *ante*, 362, note (*u*); *Lynes v. Coley*, 1 Redf. Sur. 407; *Banta v. Moore*, 2 McCarter (N. J.), 101, and note (*m*) below; *Carmichael v. Ray*, 5 Ired. Eq. 365; *Ela v. Edwards*, 13 Allen, 48.]

(*l*) See *ante*, 362, 430.

(*l'*) [It seems to be generally settled, that the debts due to creditors who are citizens of the government where the ancillary administration exists, shall be paid

by the ancillary administrator — the surplus only being transmitted to the place of the principal administration — and that in case of insolvency the assets in his hands are to be distributed among them. *Parker C. J. in Goodall v. Marshall*, 11 N. H. 88, 91; *Richards v. Dutch*, 8 Mass. 506; *Dewey J. in Fay v. Haven*, 3 Met. 109, 114; *Low v. Bartlett*, 8 Allen, 259, 263; *Dawes v. Head*, 3 Pick. 145; *Davis v. Estey*, 8 Pick. 475; *Porter v. Heydock*, 6 Vt. 374; *Churchill v. Boyden*, 17 Vt. 319; *Dawes v. Boylston*, 9 Mass. 337; *Boston v. Boylston*, 4 Mass. 318, 324; *Stevens v. Gaylord*, 11 Mass. 256; *Harvey v. Richards*, 1 Mason, 381, 421; *Carmichael v. Ray*, 1 Richardson, 116; *Mothland v. Wireman*, 3 Penn. 185; 2 Kent, 431. And in *Goodall v. Marshall*, 11 N. H. 88, it was held that the ancillary administration, operating only upon the property within the government where it is taken out, is, throughout its whole proceedings, so far as creditors are concerned, to be governed by the law of the place. "If the debts are provided or in the place of the ancillary administration," says *Parker C. J. in the above case*, "the mode of payment under that administration must be regulated by the *lex loci rei sitæ* . . . . So far as administration is had of the property in any particular government, it must be according to the *lex loci*. This is uniformly, and it may be said necessarily, so in the granting of the administration, the collection of the debts due the estate, the conversion of the property into money, and the settlement of the account of administration. No nation or state is



the original administration only when a final account has been

believed, in these particulars, to act with reference to the foreign law of the domicile of the deceased. . . . If there be any conflict in the laws of the two places, the government which provides for and sustains the ancillary administration, if it retains the assets for distribution among those of its own citizens who are creditors of the estate, will of course provide for their payment according to its own laws." See *Partington v. Atty. Gen.* L. R. 4 H. L. 100. And in *Low v. Bartlett*, 8 Allen, 259, 263, Chapman J. said: "Each state regulates for itself exclusively the manner in which the estate found within its limits shall be settled." See per Dewey J. in *Fay v. Haven*, 3 Met. 116; *Topham v. Chapman*, 1 Const. (S. Car.) 292; *Mothland v. Wireman*, 3 Penn. 185; *Harrison v. Sterry*, 5 Cranch, 299; *Milne v. Moreton*, 6 Binney, 353, 361; *Olivier v. Townes*, 14 Martin, 93, 99; *Miller's Estate*, 3 Rawle, 312; *McElmoyle v. Cohen*, 13 Peters, 312; *Smith v. Union Bank of Georgetown*, 5 Peters, 518; *De Sobry v. De Laistre*, 2 Harr. & J. 193, 224; *Holmes v. Remsen*, 20 John. 265. Questions have frequently arisen, and in many cases been discussed with great learning and ability, regarding the method to be pursued in distributing the assets belonging to the estate of a person deceased, where there are two or more separate administrations, creditors in each jurisdiction, and an actual insolvency. One of the most important cases upon this subject is 'that of *Dawes v. Head*, 3 Pick. 128, in which (pp. 145-148) *Parker C. J.*, having stated the question to be, whether the funds collected in Massachusetts by an ancillary administration should be appropriated to the payment of such debts as might be regularly proved in Massachusetts, notwithstanding it was made to appear that the whole estate was insufficient to pay all the debts, and that the effects in Massachusetts were wanted by the executor abroad, to enable him duly to administer the estate, proceeded to say: "In relation

to the effects found within our jurisdiction, and collected by the aid of our laws, as regard to the rights and interests of our citizens requires that those effects should be made answerable for debts due them, in a just proportion to the whole estate of the deceased and all the claims upon it wherever they may be. In the several cases which have come before this court, where the legal character and effects of an ancillary administration have been considered, the intimations have been strong that the administrator here shall be held to pay the debts due to our citizens. In all these cases, however, we must suppose the court had reference to a solvent estate, and in such case there seems to be no question of the correctness of the principle; for it would be but an idle show of courtesy to order the proceeds of an estate to be sent to a foreign country, the province of Bengal for instance, and oblige our citizens to go or send there for their debts, where no possible prejudice could arise to the estate, or those interested in it, by causing them to be paid here. . . . In regard to effects thus collected within our jurisdiction, belonging to an insolvent estate of a deceased person having his domicile abroad, the question may be more difficult. We cannot think, however, that in any civilized country advantage ought to be taken of the accidental circumstance of property being found within its territory, which may be reduced to possession by the aid of its courts and laws, to sequester the whole for the use of its own subjects or citizens, where it shall be known that all the estate and effects of the deceased are insufficient to pay his just debts. Such a doctrine would be derogatory to the character of any government. Under the English bankrupt system, foreigners as well as subjects may prove their debts and share in the distribution; . . . and no reason can be suggested why so honest and just a principle should not be applied in the case of insolvent estates of deceased persons. It is

settled in the proper tribunal where the new administration is

always practised upon in regard to persons dying within our jurisdiction, having had their domicile here; that is, creditors of all countries have the same rights as our own citizens to file their claims and share in the distribution. There cannot be then a right in any one or more of our citizens, who may happen to be creditors, to give the whole of the effects which may be found here, or claim an appropriation of them to the payment of their debts, in exclusion of foreign creditors. . . . Shall, then, the effects collected here belonging to an insolvent estate in a foreign country be sent home in order to be appropriated according to the laws of that country? This would often work great injustice, and always great inconvenience to our own citizens, whose debts might not be large enough to bear the expense of proving and collecting them abroad; and in countries where there is no provision for an equal distribution, the pursuit of them might be wholly fruitless. As in Great Britain, our citizens, whose debts would generally be upon simple contract, such as bills of exchange, promissory notes, accounts, &c. would be postponed to creditors by judgment, bond, &c. and even to other debts upon simple contract which might be preferred by the executor or administrator. It would seem too great a stretch of courtesy to require the effects to be sent home and our citizens to pursue them under such disadvantages. What, then, shall be done to avoid, on the one hand, the injustice of taking the whole funds for the use of our citizens to the prejudice of foreigners, when the estate is insolvent, and on the other, the equal injustice and greater inconvenience of compelling our own citizens to seek satisfaction of their debts in distant countries? The proper course would undoubtedly be, to retain the funds here for a *pro rata* distribution according to the laws of our state among the citizens thereof, having regard to all the assets, either in the hands of the principal administrator or

of the administrator here, and having regard also to the whole of the debts which by the laws of either country are payable out of those assets, disregarding any fanciful preference which may be given to one species of debt over another, considering the funds here as applicable to the payment of the just proportion due to our own citizens; and if there be any residue, it should be remitted to the principal administrator, to be dealt with according to the laws of his own country, — the subjects of that country, if there be any injustice or inequality in the payment or distribution, being bound to submit to its laws. The only objection which can be made to this mode of adjusting an ancillary administration upon an insolvent estate is, the difficulty and delay of executing it. . . . The administrator here should be held to show the condition of the estate abroad, the amount of property subject to debts, and the amount of debts, and a distribution could be made upon perfectly fair and equitable principles. The delay would undoubtedly be considerable, but this would not be so great an evil as either sending our citizens abroad, upon a forlorn hope, to seek for the fragments of an insolvent estate, or paying the whole of their debts out of the property without regard to the claims of foreign creditors." The above suggestions, however, do not cover all, nor even the main difficulties that may arise. They do not cover the case, among others, where the assets collected in the ancillary administration are not sufficient to meet the *pro rata* payment required in the adjustment of the entire estate to the entire amount of debts. To render such an arrangement fair and equal it should be made certain that it would be mutual and reciprocal. There are, however, many cases in which the above principle of distribution has been favored or adopted. See *Davis v. Estey*, 8 Pick. 475; *Fay v. Haven*, 3 Met. 114; *Churchill v. Boyden*, 17 Vt. 319; *Miller's Estate*, 3 Rawle, 312; *Olivier v. Townes*, 14 Martin, 93. Some

granted, upon the equitable principles adopted by its own law, in

of the difficulties in applying the above rule were noticed by Parker C. J. in *Goodall v. Marshall*, 11 N. H. 88, 100, 101. Referring to it, the learned judge said: "Cases may exist in which this will prove a perfectly satisfactory rule, and accomplish an equal distribution among all legally entitled. But in other cases there may be great difficulty in its application. It holds the ancillary administrator to furnish evidence which he may have no means of procuring, for he has no control over the principal administrator. It may not accomplish the equality which is the great object to be attained by it; for if the estate in the hands of the principal administrator is greater in proportion to the claims there to be paid, than that in the hands of the ancillary administrator in proportion to the claims allowed under that administration, no decree can be made under the latter which will give the creditors there a *pro rata* distribution, unless their claims have been allowed under the principal administration also. It is only when the funds collected under the ancillary administration will give the creditors in that government as great a share as the others, that the equality sought is to be attained by that process. Another objection is, that if, by the laws of other governments, there are 'fanciful preferences' existing there, the rule cannot be made reciprocal in its operation; for in a case in which the ancillary administration exists there, and the principal one in a state where by the laws there is to be an equal distribution, the courts in which the ancillary administration proceeds must give effect to the preferences there allowed, whether they are regarded fanciful or otherwise; and in that case the surplus of the assets, over and above the ratable share of the creditors there, will not be transmitted to the place of the principal administration, that the creditors there may have an equal share. Besides, if there is anything here which should be distributed with reference to the

laws of another government, or with reference to the property which is to be disposed of by the operation of those laws, we can hardly regard the preferences they give as fanciful, or disregard the laws themselves, while we take into account the property on which they are to act." In the above case of *Goodall v. Marshall*, it was decided that where a person, domiciled in another government, dies, leaving property in New Hampshire, and an ancillary administration is taken in New Hampshire, and the estate represented insolvent, all the creditors of the deceased are entitled to prove their claims against the estate in New Hampshire, and to have the real as well as the personal estate appropriated in satisfaction of their demands. And the court also gave their opinion that where an estate is represented insolvent, all the creditors may pursue their claims, and have them allowed, in every government where administration is taken; for the purpose of availing themselves of all the estate of their debtor, until they have obtained payment of their debts. Standing upon the above positions, and referring to the rule above stated in *Dawes v. Head*, Parker C. J. in *Goodall v. Marshall*, *ubi supra*, further said: "It will deserve further consideration, when a case arises which shall require it, whether it is not the better rule to distribute the assets, under the ancillary administration, among all those who have entitled themselves to payment, or a dividend there, without reference to the amount of the estate, or claims elsewhere. So long as it is open for all to present and prove their claims, this rule will provide for as equal a distribution as the law permits. If creditors fail of obtaining a full share, through their own laches, they will have no cause of complaint." But see *Churchill v. Boyden*, 17 Vt. 319. Some of the difficulties in making distribution in the cases above suggested have been met and provided for by statute in some states. In Massachusetts it is pro-

the application and distribution of the assets found within its jurisdiction. (*m*)

vided that when administration is taken in that state on the estate of any person who was an inhabitant of any other state or country, if such person died insolvent, his estate found in Massachusetts shall as far as practicable be so disposed of that all his creditors in Massachusetts and elsewhere may receive each an equal share in proportion to their respective debts. To this end, his estate shall not be transmitted to the foreign executor or administrator, if there be one, until all his creditors who are citizens of Massachusetts have received the just proportion that would be due to them if the whole estate of the deceased wherever found, that is applicable to the payment of common creditors, were divided among all the creditors in proportion to their respective debts, without preferring any one species of debt to another; in which case no creditor who is not a citizen of Massachusetts shall be paid out of the assets found there, until all those who are citizens have received their just proportion as above provided. If there is any residue after such payment to the citizens of Massachusetts, it may be paid to any other creditors who have duly proved their debts there, in proportion to the amount due to each of them, but no one shall receive more than would be due to him if the whole estate were divided ratably among all creditors as above. The balance may be transmitted to the foreign executor or administrator; or if there is none, it shall, after the expiration of four years from the appointment of the administrator in Massachusetts, be distributed ratably among all creditors, both citizens and others, who have proved their debts in that state. Genl. Sta. c. 101, §§ 40, 41, 42. This statute secures the creditors in other states against any wrong from the courts of Massachusetts, where the balance of assets is in favor of the creditors in that state, but does not secure the creditors in Massachusetts against wrong from the

courts of any other state where the balance of assets is in favor of the creditors of such other state. A statute with similar provisions was passed in New Hampshire, in 1851. See the provisions of it stated, and the unfavorable comments upon it in *Taylor v. Barron*, 35 N. H. 484, 502.]

(*m*) Story's Confli. ch. xiii. s. 513; *ante*, 990; [*ante*, 362, note (*u*); 2 Kent, 434, note (*a*); *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77. It is very generally conceded, that when all the claims against the ancillary administration have been ascertained and finally settled, the court in which such administration is pending, may in its discretion order the balance to be sent to the principal administrator for distribution. See *Low v. Bartlett*, 8 Allen, 259, 264, 266; *Dawes v. Boylston*, 9 Mass. 337; *Probate Court v. Kimball*, 42 Vt. 320; *Wilkins v. Ellett*, 9 Wallace, 740; *Mackey v. Coxe*, 18 How.<sup>9</sup> (U. S.) 100, 105; *Sanford v. Thompson*, 18 Geo. 554; *Banta v. Moore*, 2 McCarter (N. J.), 97; *Goodall v. Marshall*, 11 N. H. 88, 93; *Williams v. Williams*, 5 Md. 467; *Fay v. Haven*, 3 Met. 114; *Dawes v. Head*, 3 Pick. 128, 147, 148; *Davis v. Estey*, 8 Pick. 475; *ante*, 1515, note (*u*); 362, note; *Stevens v. Gaylord*, 11 Mass. 256, 264; *Harvey v. Richards*, 1 Mason, 381; *De Couche v. Savetier*, 3 John. Ch. 190, 210; *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77, 100; *Gravillon v. Richard*, 13 La. 293; Genl. Sta. Mass. c. 101, § 39; *Lawrence v. Kitteridge*, 21 Conn. 577; *Cassilly v. Meyer*, 4 Md. 1; *Gilchrist v. Cannon*, 1 Coldw. (Tenn.) 581. But until such order the ancillary administrator is not in default for neglecting to pay over the assets in his hands. *Mackey v. Coxe*, 18 How. (U. S.) 100. But see *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77, 100; *Carmichael v. Ray*, 5 Ired. Eq. 365. The tribunal, in which the ancillary administration is pending, is not, however, bound in all cases to order the *residuum* of the estate to be transmitted to the country of the original administration. There

By the statute 5 Geo. 2, c. 7, s. 4, it is enacted, that "the

may be cases in which that tribunal, acting on the circumstances, may deem it proper in the exercise of a sound judicial discretion to ascertain the law of the domicile of the deceased for itself and to apply it in the distribution of the estate of the deceased within its jurisdiction, under its own order and direction. See *Williams v. Williams*, 5 Md. 467; *Porter v. Heydock*, 6 Vt. 374; *Churchill v. Boyden*, 17 Vt. 319; *Parker C. J. in Dawes v. Head*, 3 Pick. 128, 144; *Stevens v. Gaylord*, 11 Mass. 256, 264; *Guier v. O'Daniel*, 1 Binney, 349, note; *Deseebats v. Berquier*, 1 Binney, 336; *Harvey v. Richards*, 1 Mason, 381, 430; *Slatter v. Carroll*, 2 Sandf. 573; *Goodall v. Marshall*, 11 N. H. 93; *Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 101, § 39*. But see *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77, 100; *Dawes v. Boylston*, 9 Mass. 337, 358; *Adlum's Estate*, 6 Phil. (Pa.) 347; *Probate Court v. Kimball*, 42 Vt. 320. In *Harvey v. Richards*, 1 Mason, 381, which was the case of a bill in equity in the circuit court of the United States, sitting in Massachusetts, it was maintained by Judge Story, with great fulness of learning, illustration, and argument, that a court of equity has jurisdiction to decree an account and distribution, according to the *lex domicilii*, of the estate of a deceased person domiciled abroad, which has been collected under an administration granted here. But whether it will proceed to decree such account and distribution, or direct such assets to be remitted, to be distributed by a foreign tribunal, depends upon the circumstances of the case. And that although the property was to be distributed according to the *lex domicilii*, national comity did not require it to be distributed abroad. See, as to the jurisdiction in equity, *M'Namara v. Deyer*, 7 Paige, 239; *Tunstall v. Pollard*, 11 Leigh, 1; *Colbert v. Daniel*, 32 Ala. 314; *Montalvan v. Clover*, 32 Barb. 190. If an executor in Massachusetts, having taken out ancillary administration in another state, after paying the expenses of administra-

tion, and discharging his liabilities there, has a surplus arising from the proceeds of sales of lands in such state, he is to account for it in Massachusetts as personal property. *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77. The final and full settlement of the estate is to be made in the place of the domicile of the testator or intestate, for the whole of the personal property and effects which have come to the hands of the executor or administrator, wherever found, or by whatever means collected. *Wells J. in Clark v. Blackington*, 110 Mass. 372, 376; *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77. And the distribution of the estate among the heirs or legatees is to be made according to the law of the domicile of the testator or intestate at the time of his decease. *Goodall v. Marshall*, 11 N. H. 88; *Ordronaux v. Helie*, 3 Sandf. Ch. 512; *Churchill v. Prescott*, 3 Bradf. 233; *Jones v. Gerock*, 6 Jones Eq. (N. Car.) 190; *Tucker v. Candy*, 10 Rich. Eq. (S. Car.) 12. The course pursued in *Williams v. Williams*, 5 Md. 467, is instructive in matter of practice on both points, viz, that of transmitting assets for distribution from place of ancillary administration to place of principal administration under letters testamentary, add that of retaining assets for distribution at the place of ancillary administration. *Martha Weld*, the testatrix, had her domicile in Massachusetts, but the bulk of her personal property was in Maryland. The residue of her estate was given to twenty-four legatees, twenty of whom resided in Maryland and the other four in Massachusetts. Her will was proved and letters testamentary granted in Massachusetts and ancillary administration was granted in Maryland. When the ancillary administrator was about to pass his final account in the orphan's court in Maryland, the Massachusetts executor applied to that court for a transfer to Massachusetts of so much of the assets in Maryland as would be sufficient to pay off the four legatees and the expenses of administration in Massa-

houses, lands, negroes, (n) and other hereditaments and real estates, situate or being within any of the said plantations [British plantations in America] belonging to any person indebted, shall be liable to and chargeable with all just debts, duties, and demands of what nature or kind soever, owing by any such person to his majesty, or any of his subjects, and shall and may be assets for the satisfaction thereof, in like manner as real estates are by the law of England liable \* to the satisfaction of any debts due by bond or other specialty, and shall be subject to the like remedies, proceedings, and process in any court of law or equity, in any of the said plantations respectively for seizing, extending, selling, or disposing of any such houses, lands, negroes, and other hereditaments and real estates towards the satisfaction of such debts, duties, and demands, and in like manner as personal estates in any of the said plantations respectively are seized, extended, sold or disposed of, for the satisfaction of debts.”

§ Geo. 2,  
c. 7.  
Land,  
houses, ne-  
groes, &c.  
in the plan-  
tations :

In the case of *Thomson v. Grant*, (o) Alexander Donaldson devised plantations in Jamaica to several trustees, whom also he appointed his executors. Of these, Thomson alone proved the will in the prerogative court of Canterbury; and Grant, Campbell, Meekin, and Green proved it in Jamaica. Thomson died, and Grant, who was one of his executors, proved his will here in the prerogative court. Both Thomson and Grant were creditors

chusetts, and it was decided that the application should be allowed. There was no request that the whole residue should be sent to the place of domicile for distribution; but the balance, after transmitting the shares of the four legatees and the expenses of administration in Massachusetts, seems to have been retained in Maryland for distribution among the remaining legatees in the place of ancillary administration. The court held that the sum to be allowed for expenses of administration in Massachusetts was to be settled in Massachusetts. The court, in the above case, said (pp. 470, 471): “As due respect for a court of our sister state requires us to believe the rights of all parties will be properly guarded by that tribunal, there can be no reason for refusing to remit to their jurisdiction such a portion of the

assets as will be sufficient to meet any contingency which may result from the decision of that court.” See *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77; *Hubbard v. Hinkley*, 1 Root, 418. Where an executor in Massachusetts takes out an ancillary administration in another state, the question as to charging himself with interest is exclusively cognizable in the courts of the former state, where the final settlement of the estate is to be made. *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 67; *Clark v. Blackington*, 110 Mass. 369, 372.]

(n) Repealed as to negroes by stat. 37 Geo. 3, c. 119. The compensation fund for slaves in Jamaica was held to be legal assets in *Lyon v. Colville*, 1 Coll. 449.

(o) 1 Russ. 540, note to *Player v. Foxhall*.

of Donaldson to a large amount. In a suit which was instituted by Thomson on behalf of himself and other creditors, for the administration of Donaldson's estate, and which was afterwards revived by Grant, the devise of the plantations had been declared fraudulent, as against creditors, and Grant had been appointed consignee. Grant then claimed to be entitled to retain, in priority to the other creditors, out of the balances in his hands as consignee, both the debt due from Donaldson to him individually, and also the debt due to him as the executor of Thomson. And Sir Thomas Plumer M. R. held that Grant was entitled as executor to retain both debts out of the balances in question. His honor said that the executor's right of retainer over personal property was clear; and by the act of Geo. 2, plantations in Jamaica are converted, with respect to the payment of debts, into personal assets, and, as such, are possessed by the executor. Grant, therefore, was in a situation in which he could not sue either for the debt due to himself personally, or for that which he, \* as the executor of Thomson, had the sole legal right to demand. His coming over to this country, and acting as consignee, could not take away from him a right which attached on the property in his hands. That property was personal assets, and in all respects to be administered as such. In the character of consignee, he retained only the charges incident to that situation. As an executor he was entitled to retain both debts. (p)

It seems that, even before this statute, it was held that a foreign plantation, though an inheritance, yet being in a foreign country, was to be looked upon as a chattel to pay debts, and a testamentary thing. (q)

It was held, however, in *Charlton v. Wright*, (r) that notwithstanding West India estates are made legal assets by this statute, they may be devised so as to make them equitable assets. But this was afterwards overruled in the privy council, in *Turner v. Cox*. (s)

By statute 9 Geo. 4, c. 33, after reciting that doubts have arisen  
9 Geo. 4, whether and to what extent the real estates of British  
c. 33. subjects and others (not being Mohammedans or Gen-

(p) See, also, *Manning v. Spooner*, 3 Ves. 118.

(q) *Noell v. Robinson*, 2 Ventr. 358.  
See, also, *Blankard v. Galdy*, 4 Mod. 226.

(r) 12 Sim. 274. See, also, *Lyon v. Colville*, 1 Coll. 449, 472.

(s) 8 Moore P. C. 288.

toos), situate within the jurisdiction of her majesty's supreme courts of judicature in India, are liable, as assets in the hands of executors and administrators, to the payment of the debts of their deceased owners, it is declared and enacted, "That whenever any British subject shall die seised of or entitled to any real estate in houses, lands, or hereditaments, situate within or being under the general civil jurisdiction of his majesty's supreme courts of judicature at Fort William, in Bengal, Fort St. George, and Bombay respectively, or whenever any person (not being a Mohammedan or Gentoo) shall die seised of or entitled to any such real estate, situate within the local limits of the civil jurisdiction of the same courts respectively, such real estate of such British subject \* or other person as aforesaid (not being a Mohammedan or Gentoo) is and shall be deemed assets in the hands of his or her executor and administrator, for the payment of his or her debts, whether by specialty or simple contract, in the ordinary course of administration." (t)

Whenever any British subjects or persons not being Mohammedans or Gentoos, shall die, entitled to any real estate in India, such estate shall be deemed assets:

Section 2 declares and enacts that the executor, &c. may sell such real estate for the payment of the debts, and make a good title to a purchaser.

executors may sell such real estates for the payment of debts:

By section 3, "In any suit or action to be commenced and prosecuted in any of the said courts respectively, against such executor or administrator as aforesaid, for the recovery of any debt or demand due and owing by such testator or intestate in his lifetime, and at the time of his death, such executor or administrator shall and may be charged with the full amount in value of such real estate as aforesaid, not exceeding the actual net proceeds of such estate when sold by the sheriff, as assets in the hands of such executor or administrator to be administered."

in any action for debt, the executor may be charged with the full amount of such real estate.

The general rule has long been established, that an executor or administrator shall not be charged with any other goods as assets than those *which come to his hands.* (u) But

What assets shall be consid-

(t) Real estate in India being made by this statute personal assets, it is unnecessary to make the heir a party to an administration suit. *Story v. Fry*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 603.

administrator may be charged with the value of personal property belonging to the estate of his intestate, and lost through his negligence, although it never came into his possession. *Tuttle v. Robinson*, 33 N.

(u) *Read's case*, 5 Co. 33 b, 34 a. [An H. 104; *Deberry v. Irely*, 2 Jones Eq. 370.]



ered as  
come to  
hand so as  
to charge  
the execu-  
tor:

considerable difficulty exists in ascertaining what is to be esteemed such a coming to the hands of the executor or administrator. It is said in *Wentworth's Office of an Executor*, (x) that if the testator at the time of his death has a stock of sheep in Cumberland, bullocks in Wales, fat oxen in Bucks, money, household stuff, and plate in London, and his executor dwells at Coventry, viz, far from all these places, the executor has such an actual possession presently upon the testator's death, that he may maintain trespass against any stranger taking them away or spoiling them; \* and, therefore, that author considers it doubtful whether this shall not be such a possession in the executor, and such a coming of these goods to his hands, as to charge him with payment of debts and legacies, and make his own goods liable instead of them. However, it was laid down by Lord Holt, in *Jenkins v. Plombe*, (y) that if an executor live at London, and the goods of which the testator died possessed are at Bristol, although the executor has such an immediate possession of them that he may maintain trover in his own name against any converter of them, and the damages recovered shall be assets in his hands, yet if he do not recover so much in damages as really the goods were worth, and that happens not through any fault of his, he shall answer for no more than he recovers. (z)

Again, upon the supposition that goods come fully into the possession and hands of an executor or administrator, but are afterwards wrongfully taken from him, a question arises whether such goods shall be considered assets in his hands. There are some authorities for asserting that things taken out of the possession of the executor are assets in his hands, (a) unless they were taken by the queen's enemies. (b) But it should seem, at least in a court of equity, that an executor or administrator stands in the condition of a gratuitous bailee; with respect to whom the law is, that he is not to be charged, without some default in him. (c) Therefore, if any goods of the testator are stolen from the possession of the executor, or from the possession of a third person, to whose custody they have been delivered by the executor,

(x) P. 227, 14th ed.

(b) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 234, 14th ed.

(y) 6 Mod. 181.

(c) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 235, 14th ed.; *Com.*

(z) See, also, *Com. Dig. Assets, D.*; *Dig. Assets, D.* But see *Wightwick v. Tuttle v. Robinson*, 33 N. H. 104.]

(a) *Read's case*, 5 Co. 34 a; *Bethel v. leydale*; [*post*, 1806, 1807.]

*Stanhope, Owen*, 132.

the latter shall not, in equity, be charged with these as assets. (*d*)

\* Again, if a trespasser takes goods out of the possession of an executor or administrator, although he is bound to sue the trespasser, if known, yet the executor or administrator shall not be answerable in assets for more than he recovers in the suit. But if he omits to sell the goods at a good price, and afterwards they are taken from him, then the value of the goods shall be assets in his hands, and not what he recovers; for there was a default in him. (*e*) Again, if the goods be perishable goods, and before any default in the executor to preserve them, or sell them at due value, they are impaired, he shall not answer for the first value, but shall give that matter in evidence to discharge himself. (*f*) So, if the testator's sheep or other beasts die, or if his ships perish by tempest, the executor shall not be charged with them as assets. (*g*)

With respect to that part of the estate of an executor or administrator which consists of *choses in action*, the law has long been settled, that although debts of every description due to the testator are assets, yet the executor or administrator is not to be charged with them till he has received the money. (*h*) So if the executor or administrator recovers at law or in equity any damages or compensation for any injury done to the personal estate of the testator before or since his decease, or for the breach of any covenant or contract made with the testator, (*i*) or with himself in his representative character, (*k*) all such damages thus recovered shall be assets in his hands, the costs and charges of recovering them being deducted; (*l*) but he shall not be charged

(*d*) Jones v. Lewis, 2 Ves. sen. 240; Wentw. Off. Ex. 236, 14th ed.; Com. Dig. Assets, D.; [Stevens v. Gage, 55 N. H. 175; 2 Central Law Jour. 589.] But a contrary rule is said to prevail at law. See

Crosse v. Smith, 7 East, 258, 259; *infra*, pt. IV. bk. II. ch. II. § II.

(*e*) 6 Mod. 181, 182; Wightwick v. Lord, 6 H. L. Cas. 234, 235, per Lord Wensleydale.

(*f*) 6 Mod. 181.

(*g*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 236, 14th ed.; Com. Dig. Assets, D. But see 7 East, 258, 259; *infra*, pt. IV. bk. II. ch. II. § II.

(*h*) Com. Dig. Assets, D.; Bac. Abr. Exors. H. 2; [*ante*, 1663, note (*g*<sup>1</sup>); Rug-

gles v. Sherman, 14 John. 446; Smith v. Hurd, 8 Sm. & M. 682. See, also, Jones v. Williams, 2 Call, 102; Douthitt v. Douthitt, 1 Ala. 594.]

(*i*) Co. Lit. 144 a; 1 Roll. Abr. 920; Exors. G. pl. 4, 5; Godolph. pt. 2, c. 24, s. 1, 2; Bac. Abr. Exors. H. 2; Com. Dig. Assets, C.; [Hamilton v. Wilson, 4 John. 72.]

(*k*) See *ante*, 878 *et seq.*; [Sasscer v. Walker, 5 Gill & J. 102.]

(*l*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 191, 14th ed. If the testator recover a judgment for debt and costs, and his executor sue out a *sci. fa.* upon that judgment, the debt and costs due to the testator are assets when

with them until he \* has reduced them into possession. (*m*) Thus, in *Williams v. Innes*, (*n*) in order to prove assets in the hands of the defendants, who were executors, an account rendered by them was given in evidence, in which they stated that 1,000*l.* had been awarded as due to the testator's estate from a person who had been jointly concerned with him in underwriting policies of insurance. But Lord Ellenborough held that this was not sufficient proof of assets, as it did not show that any part of the sum awarded had been received by the executors.

But such debts or damages will be regarded as assets, although never, in point of fact, received, if they be released by the executor. For the release, in contemplation of law, shall amount to a receipt. (*o*) So if the executor take an obligation in his own name for a debt due to the testator, he shall be equally chargeable as if he had received the money; for the new security has extinguished the old right, and is a *quasi* payment. (*p*)

And it has been laid down, that where an executor sues for money had and received to his use as executor, the debt or damages is assets immediately; for if the money was had and received by the defendant, by the consent or appointment of the executor, it was assets in his hands forthwith; and if without his consent, yet the bringing the action is such a consent, that, upon judgment obtained, it shall be assets immediately, without execution. (*q*)

\* This subject will be further discussed hereafter, when the nature of a *devastavit* by an executor or administrator is considered. (*r*)

received; but the sum due for costs to the executor is only by way of indemnity to himself, and is not assets. Per Parke B. in *Smedley v. Philpot*, 3 M. & W. 586.

(*m*) *Godolph.* pt. 2, c. 24, s. 5; *Jenkins v. Plume*, 1 Salk. 207; 11 Vin. Abr. 239, 240. See, also, *Lowe v. Peskett*, 16 C. B. 500.

(*n*) 1 Campb. 364.

(*o*) *Cocke v. Jenner*, Hob. 66; *Brightman v. Keighley*, Cro. Eliz. 43.

(*p*) *Norden v. Levit*, 2 Lev. 189; *Hosier v. Arundell*, 3 Bos. & Pull. 7; *Partridge v. Court*, 5 Price, 419, 420, 421; *Sparkes v. Restal*, 22 Beav. 587; [*Biscoe v. Moore*, 12 Ark. 77. See *Bas v. Chambliss*, 9 La. Ann. 376; *post*, 1799. An administrator, who is himself indebted to a debtor of the

estate of the deceased, may, if he chooses, accept a discharge of his own debt toward the payment of the debt due to him as administrator. By so doing he makes himself answerable to the estate for the whole debt which he thus settles and discharges. *Alvord v. Marsh*, 12 Allen, 603, 605, 606.]

(*q*) *Jenkins v. Plume*, 1 Salk. 207; S. C. 6 Mod. 181. [Where a distributee is indebted to the estate, and in the distribution thereof there is a surplus of debt over his distributive share, it is the duty of the administrator to collect it and account for it as assets. *Springer's Appeal*, 29 Penn. St. 208. See, also, *Hallowell's Estate*, 23 Penn. St. 223.]

(*r*) *Infra*, pt. IV. bk. II. ch. II. § II.

There may be personal property of the testator or intestate, to which his personal representative, as such, is entitled, which is not assets in his hands, by reason of not being vendible. For example, the patron of a church grants to the testator the next avoidance, and the church becomes void; and the testator dies before he presents. After his death his executor presents, and has the benefit of preferring his son or his friend. Yet this shall make no assets in his hands; because he could not lawfully take money to present. (s) But if a stranger presents, and gets his clerk admitted, and the executor recovers damages in a *quare impedit*, the money so recovered will be assets. (t) And if the testator had died before the church had become void, then, because the executor might lawfully have sold it, it should seem that he will be charged with the value as assets, if he has neglected a proper opportunity to make a sale. (u)

A grant for years of an office is assets in the hands of the executor or administrator of the grantee. (x)

Office for  
years.

There has been occasion to state, in an earlier stage of this work, (y) that the statute of frauds (29 Car. 2, c. 3, \* s. 12), after enacting that estates *pur autre vie* shall be devisable by a will in writing, signed by the devisor or by some other person in his presence and by his express directions, and attested and subscribed in the presence of the devisor by three or more witnesses, (z) proceeds to enact, that if no such devise thereof is made, the same shall be chargeable in the hands of the heir, if it shall come to him by special occupancy, as assets by descent; and in case there shall be no special occupant, it shall go to the

Estates *pur  
autre vie*.

(s) Wentw. Off. Ex. 173, 14th ed.; Godolph. pt. 2, c. 24, s. 8. See, also, Lord Tenterden's judgment in *Rennell v. Bishop of Lincoln*, 7 B. & C. 195.

(t) Wentw. Off. Ex. 173, 14th ed.; Godolph. pt. 2, c. 24, s. 8; *Sale v. Bishop of Lichfield*, Owen, 99; *Smallwood v. Bishop of Lichfield*, 1 Leon. 205.

(u) Wentw. Off. Ex. 173, 14th ed. So an archbishop's options (see *ante*, 673) are assets in the hands of his executor. The archdeaconry of Rochester was named by Archbishop Herring as his option, and

sold, dignity included, by his executors at Garraway's Coffee-house.

(x) Sir George Reynel's case, 9 Co. 97 a; *Schellinger v. Blackerby*, 1 Ves. sen. 347.

(y) *Ante*, 682.

(z) Lands held under leases for lives will pass by a devise under the words "lands and hereditaments." *Fitzroy v. Howard*, 3 Russ. 223. See, also, *Weigall v. Brome*, 6 Sim. 99; and the statute 1 Vict. c. 26, s. 26, preface.

executors or administrators of the grantee, and shall be assets in their hands. It must be remarked that this statute does not declare to whom the residue or surplus, which shall remain in the hands of the executors or administrators, shall belong, in case the estate goes to them under the statute. And in the case of *Oldham v. Pickering*, (a) it was determined, that such residue was *not* distributable amongst the next of kin; for, notwithstanding the alteration by the statute, the estate remained freehold. This gave occasion to the passing of the stat. 14 Geo. 2, c. 20, s. 9, which, after reciting the statute of Car. 2, and that doubts had arisen, where no devise was made of such estates, to whom the surplus of such estates, after the debts of such deceased owners thereof are fully satisfied, shall belong, enacts, "that such estates *pur autre vie*, in case there be no special occupant thereof, of which no devise shall have been made according to the said act for prevention of frauds and perjuries, or so much thereof as shall not have been so devised, shall go, be applied and distributed, in the same manner as the personal estate of the testator or intestate."

Neither of these statutes, however, provides expressly for the case of a tenant *pur autre vie* dying intestate as to that estate, but having made a valid will of his personalty; or in \* other words, the statutes omit to state whether the surplus shall in such case go according to the personal estate disposed of by the will, or as undisposed of personal estate. (b) Nor is any provision made by these statutes for the surplus which may be in the hands of an executor or administrator as special occupant. Both these points were fully considered by Lord Eldon in the case of *Ripley v. Waterworth*. (c) There lands had been limited to a man, his executors, administrators, and assigns, *pur autre vie*. He died, having published his will (not attested according to the statute of frauds,) and appointed an executor, and made a residuary bequest of his personal estate. There were four distinct claimants, the heir-at-law, the residuary legatee, and the next of kin; and a claim was made by the executor for his own benefit. For the heir-at-law it was urged, that it was real estate, viz, a descendible freehold; that it would not pass by an unattested will, and an executor could not at common law take as special occupant; and,

(a) 2 Salk. 464; S. C. Carth. 376.

(c) 7 Ves. 425.

(b) See Watkins on Conveyancing, 71, note by Morley and Coota.

therefore, the heir-at-law was entitled. For the residuary legatees and next of kin it was urged, that an executor might at common law take an estate *pur autre vie*, as special occupant; and that even prior to the statute of frauds it was assets in his hands; and that it would be strange if (the statute providing that where there is no special occupant it shall go to the executor) it should not go to the executor where it is expressly given to him; and that the executor would, as special occupant, take it as personal estate, chargeable with debts, and subject to application as personal estate after debts paid. The lord chancellor was of opinion that it could in no event go to the heir; that it did not belong to the executor; and that, as between the next of kin and residuary legatee, the executor was in equity a trustee for those to whom the testator had given the personal estate, by a will sufficient to pass personal estate, and therefore \* he must be considered as holding it for the residuary legatee. (d)

With respect to estates *pur autre vie* of any deceased person, who shall not have died before the 1st day of January, 1838, the statute 1 Vict. c. 26, after repealing the above mentioned statutes of Car. 2 and Geo. 2, and enacting, by section 3, that the power of every person to devise his estate shall extend to estates *pur autre vie*, whether there shall or shall not be any special occupant thereof, and whether the same shall be a corporeal or incorporeal hereditament, proceeds to enact, by section 6, that “if no <sup>1</sup> Vict. c. disposition by will shall be made of any estate *pur autre* <sup>26.</sup> *vie* of a freehold nature, the same shall be chargeable in the hands of the heir, if it shall come to him by reason of special occupancy, as assets by descent, as in the case of freehold land in fee-simple; and in case there shall be no special occupant of any estate *pur autre vie*, whether freehold or customary freehold, tenant-right, customary or copyhold, or of any other tenure, and whether a corporeal or incorporeal hereditament, it shall go to the executor or administrator of the party that had the estate thereof by virtue of the grant, and if the same shall come to the executor or administrator either by reason of a special occupancy or by virtue of this act, it shall be assets in his hands, and shall go and be applied and

(d) Watk. Convey. edition by Morley of Lord Lyndhurst, in *Fitzroy v. Howard*, and Coote, 71, note. See, also, *James v.* 3 Russ. 230. Dean, 11 Ves. 392; and the observations

distributed in the same manner as the personal estate of the testator or intestate." (e)

In the case last cited Lord Eldon observed, with respect to the claim of the executor for his own benefit, that he doubted whether an executor or administrator ever takes anything as such which he will not be bound to apply as \* personal estate of the testator or intestate. (f) And in *Miller v. Harewood*, (g) his lordship, recurring to his decision in *Ripley v. Waterworth*, said, "I have determined, and I see no reason to dissent from it, that, where the executor is the special occupant, taking as executor, he must hold that as all other property taken by an executor, and therefore distributable in this court." From this principle it seems to be a necessary deduction, that whenever personal estate is limited to executors or administrators, as purchasers, they will take for the benefit of the persons entitled to the personal estate. There has already been occasion, in a previous part of this treatise, (h) to state, at some length, the authorities which are connected with this question.

The absolute property of the goods must have been vested in the testator, in order to make them assets in the hands of the executor. (i) Therefore, if the testator takes a bond for another in trust, and dies, this is not assets in the hands of his executor. So if the obligee assigns over a bond, and cove-

(e) See, as to the construction of this section, *Reynolds v. Wright*, 2 De G., F. & J. 590; 25 Beav. 100; *ante*, 686, note (u).

(f) 7 Ves. 438.

(g) 18 Ves. 273.

(h) *Ante*, 1139 *et seq.*

(i) *Bac. Abr. Exors. H. 1.* See *Parker v. Baylis*, 2 Bos. & Pull. 78; [*Green v. Collins*, 6 Ired. (Law) 139; *Thompson v. White*, 45 Maine, 445; *Johnson v. Ames*, 11 Pick. 173; *Merrick's Estate*, 8 Watts & S. 402; *Schoolfield v. Rudd*, 9 B. Mon. 291; *Perkins v. Perkins*, 46 N. H. 110; *Trecothick v. Austin*, 4 Mason, 16; *Gray C. J. in National Bank of Troy v. Stanton*, 116 Mass. 439. Stock held by a trustee is not assets in the hands of his ad-

ministrator. *United States v. Cutts*, 1 Sumner, 133. Where property attached in the hands of trustees is assigned by the owner, and the attachment is afterwards dissolved by his death and the grant of letters of administration, the assignee, and not the administrator, is entitled to the property. *Coverdale v. Aldrich*, 19 Pick. 391. But "if the testator has money or other property in his hands belonging to others, whether in trust or otherwise, and it has no ear-mark, and is not distinguishable from the mass of his own property, the party must come in as a general creditor, and it falls within the description of assets of the testator." *Story J. in Trecothick v. Austin*, 4 Mason, 29; *Wilde J. in Johnson v. Ames*, 11 Pick. 181.]

nants not to revoke, and dies, that bond is not assets in hands of the executor of the obligee. (*j*)

It is necessary in this place to advert to the nature of terms attendant on the inheritance. When a term for years is created for a particular purpose, as for raising money for payment of debts, or portions for younger children, and the purpose for which the term was created is satisfied, the termor is considered in equity as a trustee for the owner of the inheritance; and though at law the term is deemed a term in gross in such trustee, yet in equity it follows the fee, \*and is looked upon as completely consolidated with it. (*k*) Hence it is not regarded as personal assets in the hands of the executor of the person entitled to the fee, but as real assets which go to his heir. (*l*) Yet this must not be understood of every term which attends the inheritance; for where a termor purchases the freehold and inheritance, and takes a conveyance thereof in the name of a trustee, although the term in himself will be attended on his equitable fee-simple, yet, at his death, it will be assets in the hands of his personal representatives. (*m*)

Terms attendant on the inheritance of testator.

It must be observed, that executors or administrators cannot be in a better condition, with respect to the estate of the deceased, than he himself would have been in; and therefore they cannot employ as general assets, property which he would have been bound to apply to a particular purpose. (*n*) Thus, in *Hassall v. Smithers*, (*o*) a remittance in bills and notes for a specific purpose, viz, to answer accept-

Fund for specific purposes not general assets.

(*j*) *Deering v. Torrington*, 1 Salk. 79. But in *Byrn v. Godfrey*, 4 Ves. 6, it was held that a promissory note given to the testator was assets, notwithstanding his declaration to his executor that he never meant to call for payment of it.

(*k*) See *Watk. Convey.* 48, note by *Morley and Coote*.

(*l*) *Tiffin v. Tiffin*, 1 Vern. 1; *Thurxton v. Atty. Gen.* 1 Vern. 341.

(*m*) *Dowse v. Percival*, 1 Vern. 134; *Thurxton v. Atty. Gen.* 1 Vern. 341; *Gunter v. Gunter*, 23 Beav. 571. See, also, *Belaney v. Belaney*, L. R. 2 Eq. 210.

But by stat. 8 & 9 Vict. c. 112, after December 31, 1845, all terms attendant on the inheritance shall determine, unless for the purpose of protection, in certain cases, against incumbrances. See *Cottrell v. Hughes*, 15 C. B. 532; *Plant v. Taylor*, 7 H. & N. 211; *Owen v. Owen*, 3 H. & C. 88.

(*n*) See acc. per Lord Ellenborough in *Taylor v. Plumer*, 3 M. & Sel. 578; and per Littleton J. in *Ashby v. Ashby*, 7 B. & C. 453; [*Fisher v. Fisher*, 1 Bradf. Sur. 336. See *Cronan v. Cotting*, 99 Mass. 334, 336.]

(*o*) 12 Ves. 119.



ances, was received by an administrator, in consequence of the death of the party to whom the remittance was made; and it was held that the special purpose operated as a lien, and that the sum remitted could not be applied by the administrator as general assets.

Other instances may occur, where personal property may be in the hands of the executor, and yet not applicable to any but a special purpose. Thus, in *Parry v. Ashley*, (p) \* the testator charged his real estate, which consisted of one house only, with an annuity to his widow, and subject to that annuity he devised it to Sarah Ashley in fee, and appointed her his executrix. The testator had insured the house; and on the expiration of the policy a few months after his death, it was renewed by Sarah Ashley. The house was afterwards burnt down. And Sir L. Shadwell V. C. held, that as she, being executrix, renewed the policy, it must be taken that she did so in the character of executrix. (q) But his honor was of opinion that the proceeds of the policy could not be considered as part of the testator's personal estate, but that they were affected with a trust for the benefit of the parties interested in the real estate. (r) Again, in *Thacker v. Wilson*, (s) the court of king's bench held, that under the statute 14 Geo. 3, c. 78 (building act), s. 41, where a party wall has been rebuilt, the person who is owner of and entitled to the improved rent of the adjoining premises, is liable to contribution out of such rent, though he be no otherwise owner than as an executor or administrator; and this, although there be a judgment outstanding, of a date prior to the pulling down of the wall, and no sufficient assets to meet it. For the portion of the rent claimable in respect of such contribution is not assets, inasmuch as this claim is a lien upon so much of the rent.

In *Smedley v. Philpot*, (t) the defendant's testatrix, Jane Carter, had commenced a suit in chancery for an account under a will, in which she employed as her solicitors, first one Jones, then

(p) 3 Sim. 97.

(q) It may here be mentioned that it has been held that an executor in trust has a sufficient interest to enable him to make an insurance in his own name, on the life of a person who has granted an annuity to the testator. *Tidswell v. Ankerstein*, Peake N. C. P. 151.

(r) See *Rook v. Warth*, 1 Ves. sen. 461.

See, also, *Cruikshank v. Roberts*, 6 Madd. 104, for another instance of assets in the hands of executors not being regarded as part of the general personal estate.

(s) 3 Ad. & El. 142; S. C. 4 Nev. & M. 659.

(t) 3 M. & W. 573.

the present plaintiff, who successively gave \* up the conduct of the suit, and then one Johnson, who continued to act up to her death in 1829. After her death the present defendant, her executor, filed a bill of revivor, and Johnson continued to conduct the suit for him. In 1833 a decree was made, whereby the rights of the several parties were declared, and it was ordered that the master should settle the costs of all the parties, and that the same, when taxed and settled, should be paid out of the fund in court in the following manner : viz, the plaintiff's (the now defendant's) costs, to Johnson his solicitor, and the costs of the several defendants in the suit to their respective solicitors (naming them). The plaintiff's (now defendant's) costs were taxed, including the costs both of Jane Carter in her lifetime and of him as her executor, and consequently the taxation was founded on the bills of Jones, of the present plaintiff, and of Johnson. Certain sums in respect of them were afterwards paid by the officer of the court of chancery to Johnson. The present plaintiff sued the present defendant, as executor of Jane Carter, for the amount of his bill, and had judgment of assets, *quando acciderint*. He afterwards brought another action on the judgment and gave notice of trial, and it was then agreed between them, that, on his withdrawing the record, the defendant would then pay him 100*l.* on account of his bill, and the remainder *out of the assets which should first come to the defendant's hands* as executor of Jane Carter. A further sum was afterwards paid out of the court of chancery to Johnson in respect of the same costs ; and the plaintiff having brought an action on the agreement, the question was, whether this sum was assets which had come to the hands of the defendant within the meaning of the agreement. Parke B. and Alderson B. were of opinion in the affirmative, considering that all the money received by Johnson, over and above what paid the amount of his own bill, was received on account of the executor, and was equivalent to a receipt by *him* in point of law. But Lord Abinger C. B. was of a contrary opinion, and thought that the plaintiff ought to have been nonsuited ; \*not because the money ought not to have been paid to him, but because it was in effect appropriated by the order, and the circumstances of the case, to him, and did not therefore form any part of Jane Carter's assets.

Where a deed is set aside as fraudulent against any of the creditors of the deceased, the property becomes assets, and sub-

[1678] [1679]

sequent creditors are let in. (u) An assignment within the statute 13 Eliz. c. 5, is utterly void against creditors, and the property assigned is assets in the hands of the executor. (x) It should seem, that to render a conveyance fraudulent.

(u) *Richardson v. Smallwood*, 1 Jac. 552. See *ante*, 756, note (j); [*Bump Fraud. Conv.* 329, and cases cited in note (4); *Norton v. Norton*, 5 Cush. 524; *Ammon's Appeal*, 63 Penn. St. 284; *Trimble v. Turner*, 13 Sm. & M. 348; *Holland v. Cruft*, 20 Pick. 338; *Gilliam v. Spence*, 6 *Humph.* 160; *McLane v. Johnson*, 43 *Vt.* 48, 57, and cases cited; *Parkman v. Welch*, 19 *Pick.* 231; *Clark v. French*, 23 *Maine*, 221.]

(x) 3 B. & Ad. 362; [*Welsh v. Welsh*, 105 *Mass.* 229; *Holland v. Cruft*, 20 *Pick.* 321; *Buckmyer v. Mairs*, *Riley*, 208; *Marr v. Ricker*, 1 *Humph.* 348. The maker of a negotiable note, who has been appointed administrator of the estate of the payee, may defend against the suit of an indorsee by showing that the indorsement was invalid as against the creditors of the payee; that the avails of the note are needed to pay debts of the payee, and that he, as administrator, claims the note to apply it for that purpose. *Cross v. Brown*, 51 *N. H.* 486. "It is the duty of an administrator, as representing the creditors of an estate, to collect all the assets which are applicable to the payment of debts." *Gray J.* in *Welsh v. Welsh*, 105 *Mass.* 229. An executor or administrator may maintain an action at law, or a suit in equity, to set aside a conveyance of property made by the deceased for the purpose of defrauding his creditors, although the deceased himself could not do so. *Martin v. Root*, 17 *Mass.* 222; *Gibbens v. Peeler*, 8 *Pick.* 254; *McKnight v. Morgan*, 2 *Barb.* 171; *Morris v. Morris*, 5 *Mich.* 171; *Judson v. Connolly*, 4 *La. Ann.* 169; *Brown v. Finley*, 18 *Missou.* 375; *Holland v. Cruft*, 20 *Pick.* 321; *Chase v. Redding*, 13 *Pick.* 418; *Tenney v. Poor*, 14 *Gray*, 500; *McLane v. Johnson*, 43 *Vt.* 48. So he may set up fraud and avoid the act of the deceased, for the benefit of the creditors, where the estate is

insolvent. *Bouslough v. Bouslough*, 68 *Penn. St.* 495; *Cross v. Brown*, 51 *N. H.* 486. If the administrator of a fraudulent vendor neglects to use the appropriate means to obtain property fraudulently conveyed by his intestate, for the payment of his debts, he will be liable to the creditors of the deceased for such neglect. *Danzey v. Smith*, 4 *Texas*, 411; *Lee v. Chase*, 58 *Maine*, 436; *Cross v. Brown*, 51 *N. H.* 488. He is bound to inventory land which to his knowledge has been fraudulently conveyed by the intestate. *Minor v. Mead*, 3 *Conn.* 289; *Andrews v. Tucker*, 7 *Pick.* 250; *Booth v. Patrick*, 8 *Conn.* 283; *Andrus v. Doolittle*, 11 *Conn.* 283; *Bourne v. Stevenson*, 58 *Maine*, 504. But if the administrator has no knowledge that the conveyance was fraudulent, he cannot be made liable for not inventorying the property. *Booth v. Patrick*, 8 *Conn.* 106. See *Potter v. Titcomb*, 1 *Fairf.* 53; *Cringan v. Nicholson*, 1 *Hen. & Munf.* 428. If the property so fraudulently conveyed is recovered by the executor or administrator, it will constitute new assets, within the exception in the special statute of limitations, in *Massachusetts*, against which the creditors may enforce their claims in manner allowed by law, at any time within two years after the actual receipt of the new assets. *Welsh v. Welsh*, 105 *Mass.* 229, 231; *Holland v. Cruft*, 20 *Pick.* 321, 325; *Chenery v. Webster*, 8 *Allen*, 76; *Aiken v. Morse*, 104 *Mass.* 277; *post*, 1946, note (u<sup>1</sup>). The discharge of a note by the testator or intestate, in fraud of his creditors, leaves the note still good or valid in favor of the executor or administrator, who may recover the entire amount of the note, although it may not all be required for the payment of creditors, and the surplus will go to the legatees or distributees of the deceased. "This is but an incident to the right of the administrator, to recover for

lent within that statute, the party, at the time of making it, must be indebted to the extent of insolvency. (y) But in *Shears v. Rogers*, (z) where a person, owing 102*l.* on a bond, wrote to the obligee that he and his wife were bowed down by pecuniary embarrassments, and that the obligee's proceeding to extremities would render the debtor's wife after his death perfectly destitute, and a month afterwards, for a nominal sum of ten shillings, and in consideration of natural love and affection, assigned a lease (of the value of 206*l.*) to A., in trust for his own benefit for life, and after his death for that of one of his daughters-in-law, and he soon afterwards died, having by his will made the assignee of the lease his executor; by which assignment of the lease, the residue of his property became insufficient to discharge the bond debt; the court of king's bench held that the assignment was within the meaning of the statute, and utterly void against creditors, and that the lease was assets in the hands of the executor. And Patteson J. remarked, that if the defendant had not been executor, then, by the assignment in question, he would have been executor in his own wrong, (a) and chargeable by the creditors in respect of the property taken \*by him under that instrument; and that the lease could not be less assets, because the defendant was rightful executor. (a<sup>1</sup>)

Hitherto the subject has been confined to the consideration of assets, such as may be reached at law, and such as a creditor, suing the executor in an action at law for a

Equitable  
assets in

the use of the creditors." *Martin v. Root*, 17 *Mass.* 222, 228; *Holland v. Craft*, 20 *Pick.* 338. But it has been held in equity that when an estate fraudulently conveyed is ordered to be sold for the payment of the fraudulent grantor's debts, any surplus remaining after the payment of those debts will be directed to be restored to the fraudulent grantee; on the ground that such conveyance is good between the parties and their representatives, and binds all persons except creditors and subsequent purchasers, precisely as if there were no taint of fraud in it. See *Burch v. Elliot*, 3 *Ind.* 100; *Rochelle v. Harrison*, 8 *Porter*, 352; 2 *Sugden V. & P.* (8th Am. ed.) 713, note (B). In a case where the property fraudulently conveyed is claimed by an executor or administrator, the grantee

or donee is entitled to all over the amount required for the payment of debts and expenses of administration; and it has been held to be for the administrator to show the amount required for that purpose. *McLean v. Weeks*, 61 *Maine*, 277.]

(y) But see *ante*, 754, note (t); *Jackson v. Bowley*, *Carr. & M.* 97. But see, also, 1 *Smith's Leading Cas.* 17, 4th ed.; [*Spirett v. Willows*, 3 *De G., J. & S.* (Am. ed.) 293, and notes (1) and (2) and cases cited, 302, and cases in note (1); 2 *Sugden V. & P.* (8th Am. ed.) 714, note (t).]

(z) 3 *B. & Ad.* 362.

(a) See *ante*, 259, 260. See, also, *Shée v. French*, 3 *Drew.* 719, per *Kindersley V. C.*; [*Backhouse v. Jett*, 1 *Brock.* 508.]

(a<sup>1</sup>) [See *Newcomb v. Wing*, 3 *Pick.* 168.]

the hands of an executor. debt, due from the testator, might bring forward in evidence on an issue joined on the executor's plea of *plene administravit*. But there are, besides, various interests frequently forming part of the estate of an executor or administrator, which are not recognized as assets at law; and which, therefore, if administered at all, must be administered in equity. This latter portion of the estate in the hands of an executor or administrator is called *equitable assets*, in contradistinction to the former, which is called legal assets. In other words, legal assets are such as are liable to debts in the temporal courts, and were formerly liable to legacies in the spiritual, by the course of law. Equitable assets are such as are liable only by the help of a court of equity. (a<sup>2</sup>)

A most important distinction exists, with respect to the administration of these two kinds of assets. If they are legal, they must be administered by the executor or administrator of the deceased in a due course of administration, having regard to those rules of priority among creditors which have already been investigated in this treatise. (a<sup>3</sup>) But if the assets in the hands of an executor are equitable, then, although the precedence in payment of debts to legacies must be respected, yet, as among creditors, the assets must be applied in satisfaction of all the claimants, *pari passu*, without any regard to the priority in rank of one debt to another. The principle of this distinction is, that in natural justice and conscience, and in the contemplation of a court of equity, all debts are equal, and the debtor is equally bound to satisfy them all, whether by specialty or by simple contract. (b) Therefore, since a claimant upon equitable assets is under the necessity of going to a court of \*equity in order to reach them, that court will act only according to the rule of doing justice to all creditors, without any distinction as to priority. (c)

It must be observed that the true test, as to whether the assets are legal or equitable, is not whether the executor or administrator, but whether the *claimant* can reach them without resorting to a court of equity. It is, therefore, difficult to understand why

(a<sup>2</sup>) [There is no distinction between legal and equitable assets in Pennsylvania. *Estate of Sperry*, 1 Ashm. 347.]

(a<sup>3</sup>) [*Ante*, 988 *et seq.*]

(b) See stat. 32 & 33 Vict. c. 46, *ante*, 1010.

(c) *Plunket v. Penson*, 2 Atk. 294. It

seems, however, that in the administration of the separate estate of a married woman after her decease, the debts are to be paid in order of priority and not *pari passu*. *Shattock v. Shattock*, L. R. 2 Eq. 182, 194.

the equity of redemption of a term for years should have been held to be equitable and not legal assets in the hands of an executor or administrator; for although the mortgage is forfeited at law, and the whole estate thereby vested in the mortgagee, and the right of redemption is merely equitable property at the time of the death of the testator or intestate, yet it is a right which comes to the executor or administrator as part of the personal estate, and for which it can hardly be doubted he would at this day be chargeable on an issue of *plene administravit*. However, Sir Joseph Jekyll delivered his opinion, after great deliberation, in the case of *The Creditors of Sir Charles Cox*, (*d*) that it was only equitable assets. And Lord Hardwicke held accordingly, in the case of *Hartwell v. Chitters*. (*e*)

It must, however, be observed, that in *Sharpe v. Scarborough*, (*f*) it was stated by Mitford, solicitor general, in argument, that the case of *Sir Charles Cox's Creditors* and *Hartwell v. Chitters* have been considered as overruled. And Mr. Cox, in a note to his edition of *Peere Williams*, doubts the authority of those decisions, (*g*) and \*cites several cases (*h*) to show that it has been decided that chattels, whether real or personal, mortgaged or pledged by the testator, and redeemed by the executor, shall be assets *at law* in the hands of the executor, for so much as they are worth beyond the sum paid for their redemption, though recoverable only *in equity*. (*i*) But Mr. Justice Bayley, in his judgment in *Clay v. Willis*, (*k*) cites *The Creditors of Sir Charles Cox*, and *Hartwell v. Chitters*, as establishing that the equity of redemption of a term is equitable assets. (*k*<sup>1</sup>)

(*d*) 3 P. Wms. 342. It is said in the note by Mr. Cox, 3 P. Wms. 344, that it appears from the Reg. Lib. that the point was not in fact determined; but it seems unquestionable that the master of the rolls delivered a solemn opinion that the equity of redemption was equitable assets.

(*e*) Ambl. 308.

(*f*) 4 Ves. 541.

(*g*) 3 P. Wms. 344.

(*h*) *Hawkins v. Lawse*, 1 Leon. 155; *Alexander v. Lady Gresham*, 1 Leon. 225; *Harcourt v. Wrenham*, or *Harwood v. Wraynam*, Moore, 858; 1 Roll. Rep. 56; 1 Brownl. 76; 1 Roll. Abr. 920, G. pl. 6.

(*i*) But the author of *Wentworth's Of-*

fice of an Executor says, that where the redemption by the executor is after the day of payment, *equity only and not law* can make any part of the value assets in his hand. P. 186, 14th ed. See *ante*, 1661.

(*k*) 1 B. & C. 372. This part of Mr. Justice Bayley's judgment is also cited and relied upon by Lord Tenterden C. J. in *Barker v. May*, 9 B. & C. 493.

(*k*<sup>1</sup>) [In the American States an equity of redemption, either in real or personal estate, is undoubtedly legal assets, and is to be treated as such in the administration of the estates of persons deceased. *Sharp v. Earl of Scarborough*, 4 Ves. (Sumner's ed.) 538, note (*a*); *Roosevelt v. Fulton*, 7

It appears, notwithstanding, to be the better opinion at this day, that equities of redemption are not necessarily equitable assets. (l) And in the view of an eminent writer, (m) the more accurate statement of the doctrine is, that legal assets are such as come into the hands and power of an executor or administrator, or such as he is intrusted with by law, *virtute officii*, to dispose of in the course of administration; or in other words, whatever an executor or administrator takes, *qua* executor or administrator, or in respect to his office, is to be considered as legal assets. So, in the late case of *Cook v. Gregson*, (n) Kindersley V. C. (applying the test whether the executor or administrator would take simply *virtute officii*), held that an equity of redemption on a mortgage of a \*sum of money charged on a real estate, was legal assets. And his honor said that he thought the cases above cited as to mortgages for terms for years could not be supported. In the still later case of *Shee v. French*, (o) the same learned judge laid down that the question whether assets are legal or equitable depends on this, whether, if the case were before a court of law, on an issue of *plene administravit*, that court would treat the property as assets, and the principle on which a court of law proceeds is to inquire whether the property came to the hands of the executor *virtute officii*. If it did, the court of law regards it as assets, applicable to the payment of the testator's debts; and then a court of equity treats it as legal assets. (p)

Accordingly, in *Wilson v. Fielding*, (q) it was adjudged by

Cowen, 71; 4 Kent, 162. The rule has generally prevailed, that an equity of redemption may be taken and sold on execution at law. See 4 Kent, 161; *Ingersol v. Sawyer*, 2 Pick. 276; *Ford v. Philpot*, 5 Harr. & J. 312; *Van Ness v. Hyatt*, 13 Peters, 294; *Waters v. Stewart*, 1 Caines Cas. 47; *Hobart v. Frisbie*, 5 Conn. 592; *Collins v. Gibson*, 5 Vt. 243; *M'Worter v. Huling*, 3 Dana, 349; *Garro v. Thompson*, 7 Watts, 416; *Hunter v. Hunter*, 1 Walker (Miss.), 194. See *ante*, 650, note (d<sup>1</sup>).]

(l) See 2 Jarman on Wills, 585, 586, 8d ed.; Story on Equity, ch. ix. s. 551, note (1). The equity of redemption of a mortgage in fee is made legal assets by the proviso (*post*, 1692) in the stat. 3 & 4

W. 4, c. 104; *Foster v. Handley*, 1 Sim. N. S. 200; *In re Barrell*, L. R. 9 Eq. Cas. 443.

(m) Story on Equity, ch. ix. s. 551.

(n) 20 Jur. 510; 3 Drew. 547.

(o) 3 Drew. 716.

(p) See accord. Atty. Gen. v. Brunning, 8 H. L. Cas. 243, 256, 264, 265; *Christy v. Courtenay*, 26 Beav. 140; *Mudlow v. Mutlow*, 4 De G. & J. 539.

(q) 2 Vern. 763. It should seem by the report of this case in 10 Mod. 427, that Lord Macclesfield, at this period, altogether denied the doctrine of administering equitable assets *pari passu*. The case was cited before Lord Hardwicke in *Hartwell v. Chitters*, *ubi supra*.

Lord Macclesfield, that personal assets, as a lease for years, a bond, or the grant of an annuity, in a trustee's name, should be applied as legal assets in a due course of administration, although a creditor could not come at them without the aid of a court of equity. And the same law was laid down by Sir Joseph Jekyll, in the case of Sir Charles Cox's Creditors. (r)

With respect to that portion of the property in the hands of an executor or administrator, which consists of the proceeds of the sale of real estate, it is now fully settled, that such proceeds are *equitable* and not legal assets. In some of the older cases, indeed, it has been holden, that where land is devised to executors for the payment of debts and legacies, or is devised to be sold by executors, or devised to executors to be sold for that purpose, the proceeds arising from the sale are legal \*assets. (s) But later cases have completely established, that in all cases they constitute merely equitable assets. (t) In *Clay v. Willis*, (u) A. mortgaged lands in fee to B. & Co., with a power of sale upon trust, to repay themselves the moneys advanced, &c. and to pay over the surplus to A., his executors and administrators. Before any sale was made, A. died, having devised all his real and personal property to C. and D. (whom he also made executors) upon trust, to sell and pay debts, &c. During the lifetime of C. and D., B. & Co. sold the estate, and paid the surplus into the hands of E., who was agent for C. and D. Whilst the money remained in E.'s hands, C. and D. died; E. also soon died after, leaving the defendant his executor. The plaintiff having taken out administration *de bonis non*, with the will of A. annexed, brought an action for money had and received against the defendant. And it was held by the court of king's bench that it could not be maintained; for that the money in the defendant's hands was equitable, and not legal assets, and therefore would not have been recoverable by C.

(r) 3 P. Wms. 342.

(s) *Girling v. Lee*, 1 Vern. 63; *Cutterback v. Smith*, Prec. Chanc. 127; *Bickham v. Freeman*, Prec. Chanc. 136; Anon. 2 Vern. 133; *Greaves v. Powell*, 2 Vern. 248; Anon. 2 Vern. 405; *Burwell v. Corrant*, Hardr. 405.

(t) *Lewin v. Okeley*, 2 Atk. 50; *Silk v. Prime*, 1 Bro. C. C. 138, *in notis*; *Barton v. Boucher*, 1 Bro. C. C. 140, *in notis*; *Newton v. Bennet*, 1 Bro. C. C. 134; *Bat-*

*son v. Lindegreen*, 2 Bro. C. C. 94; *Baily v. Ekins*, 7 Ves. 319; *Shiphard v. Lutwidge*, 8 Ves. 26; *Clay v. Willis*, 1 B. & C. 364; *Barker v. May*, 9 B. & C. 489; *S. C. 4 Mann. & R. 336*. The case of *Lovegrove v. Cooper*, 2 Sm. & G. 271, seems to conflict with these authorities. But *quære* whether it is correctly reported. See, also, *Bain v. Sadler*, L. R. 12 Eq. Cas. 570.

(u) 1 B. & C. 364.



and D. in their representative character. In *Barker v. May*, (v) the testator devised to his executors, their heirs and assigns, his lands upon trust to sell the same; and directed that the money arising from the sale should be deemed part of his personal estate, and that it should be subject to the disposition made concerning his personal estate. He then \* directed his personal estate to be sold; and when the money arising from the sale of his personal and real estate should be collected, he disposed of it in the manner mentioned in the will, and among other dispositions he bequeathed a legacy to A. B. The court of king's bench held that the money arising from the sale of the real estate was equitable assets. And a prohibition was granted to the consistorial court at Norwich, in which the legatee had sued for his legacy, and the executor, having accounted for all the personal estate, admitted that he had in his hands a sum of money arising from the sale of the real estate. And Lord Tenterden observed, that it was quite clear that the testator could not alter the legal character of the property, by directing that it should be considered as part of his personal estate. (w)

Where the assets are partly legal, and partly equitable, though equity cannot take away the legal preference on legal assets, yet if one creditor has been partly paid out of such legal assets, when satisfaction comes to be made out of equitable assets, the court will postpone him until there is an equality in satisfaction to all the other creditors out of the equitable assets, proportionable to so much as the legal creditor has been satisfied out of the legal assets. (x)

Where a man has a general power of appointment over a fund, and he actually exercises his power, whether by deed or will, the property appointed shall form part of his assets, \* so as to be subject to the demands of his creditors

(v) 9 B. & C. 489; S. C. 4 Mann. & R. 386.

(w) But it is a mistake to treat the price of an estate contracted by the testator to be sold and afterwards received by the executor as proceeds of the real estate in the hands of an executor in the sense that makes the proceeds of real estate equitable assets. *Atty. Gen. v. Brunning*, 8 H. L. Cas. 243, reversing the decision of the exchequer, 4 H. & N. 94. Where a

testator devised a freehold house to A., whom he appointed one of his executors, charged with a sum of money payable within twelve months, this was held *equitable assets* in the hands of the executors. *Lowe v. Peckett*, 16 C. B. 500; *ante*, 1317, note (d).

(x) *Morrice v. Bank of England, Cas. temp. Talb.* 220, by Lord Talbot; *Chapman v. Esagar*, 1 Sm. & G. 575.

[1685] [1686]

at his death, in preference to the claims of his legatees or appointees. (y) But in order to raise this equity, the power must be actually executed; (z) for equity never aids the non-execution of a power. (a) And although creditors in these cases prevail over volunteers, yet if a party taking under a voluntary appointment sell to a person *bond fide*, and for a valuable consideration, such person, in analogy to the decisions on the statute of voluntary conveyances, will be preferred to the creditors, as having a preferable equity to them. (b)

(y) *Thompson v. Towne*, 2 Vern. 319; 30 L. J. Ch. 309, per Lord J. Turner. *Hinton v. Toye*, 1 Atk. 465; *Bainton v. Ward*, 2 Atk. 172; *Townsend v. Windham*, 2 Ves. sen. 9; *Pack v. Bathurst*, 3 Atk. 269; *Troughton v. Troughton*, 3 Atk. 656; *George v. Milbanke*, 9 Ves. 190; *Jenny v. Andrews*, 6 Madd. 264; *Platt v. Routh*, 6 M. & W. 789. But this doctrine does not apply to the case of an appointment by will of a married woman of property settled to her separate use for life, unless she has been guilty of fraud in her contracts. *Vaughan v. Vanderstegen*, 2 Drew. 165, 363. *Hobday v. Peters*, 28 Beav. 354; *Blatchford v. Woolley*, 2 Dr. & Sm. 204; *Shattock v. Shattock*, L. R. 2 Eq. 182. But see *Johnson v. Gallagher*, 30 L. J. Ch. 309, per Lord J. Turner. Moreover, it has been held that resort cannot be had, in any case, to the appointed property, till all the testator's own property has been exhausted. *Fleming v. Buchanan*, 3 De G., M. & G. 976.

(z) As to wills made or republished since the year 1837, every residuary bequest operates as a testamentary appointment, unless a contrary intention appears. See stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, s. 27, preface; 2 *Jarman on Wills*, 650, 3d ed.

(a) *Holmes v. Coghill*, 7 Ves. 499; 12 Ves. 206.

(b) *George v. Milbanke*, 9 Ves. 190; *Hart v. Middlehurst*, 3 Atk. 377; 2 Sugd. Pow. 29, 6th ed.

## \* CHAPTER THE SECOND.

OF REAL ASSETS: AND OF THE EXONERATION OF THE REAL ESTATE BY THE PERSONAL: AND HEREWITH OF THE MARSHALLING OF ASSETS.

## SECTION I.

*Of Real Assets, and therewith of the Exoneration of the Real Estate by the Personal.*

BESIDES the liability of the executor or administrator in respect of the personal assets in his hands, the heir of the deceased is liable, at the common law, to the extent of the real assets descended, for the payment of his ancestor's debts of a certain quality; viz, those due on bonds, covenants, or other specialties, in cases where the deceased bound himself and his heirs. (a)

It is not thought necessary to discuss, in this place, what portion of the real property of the deceased the law regards as assets by descent; nor to investigate the circumstances under which the real assets are to be considered as legal or equitable. Questions of this nature are rather matters between the heir and the creditors, than relative to the office of an executor or administrator, and therefore appear foreign to the subject of this treatise.

Creditors by specialties which affected the heir, provided he had assets by descent, had not, at common law, the same remedy against the devisee of their debtor. To obviate this mischief, the statute of 3 W. & M. c. 14, passed; which has been lately repealed and reenacted with additional provisions

(a) The heir is also liable on a judgment recovered against his ancestor, or a recognizance acknowledged by him; but he is chargeable only as *tenant of the lands* and not as heir; and therefore an action of debt does not lie against him on the judgment or recognizance, as it does on the bond of his ancestor, but a *scire facias* only, to have execution of the lands in his hands. 2 Saund. 7, note (4) to *Jefferson v. Morton*.

[1687] [1688]

calculated to remedy certain omissions in the former statute. By statute 11 Geo. 4 and 1 W. 4, c. 47, after reciting that <sup>1 W. 4,</sup> "it is not reasonable or just that by the practice or <sup>c. 47.</sup> contrivance of any debtors their creditors should be defrauded of their just debts, and nevertheless it hath often so happened, that where, several persons having, by bonds, *covenants*, (b) or other specialties, bound themselves and their heirs, and have afterwards died seised in fee-simple of and in manors, messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, or had power or authority to dispose of or charge the same by their wills or testaments, have, to the defrauding of such their creditors, by their last wills or testaments, devised the same or disposed thereof in such manner as such creditors have lost their said debts;" it is, by section 2, enacted, "that all wills and testamentary limitations, dispositions or appointments, already made by persons now in being, or hereafter to be made by any person or persons, \*whomsoever, of or concerning any manors, messuages, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, or any rent, profit, term, or charge out of the same, whereof any person or persons, at the time of his, her, or their decease, shall be seised in fee simple, in possession, reversion; or remainder, or have power to dispose of the same by his, her, or their last wills or testaments, shall be deemed or taken (only as against such person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, and his and their heirs, successors, executors, administrators, and assigns, and every of them, with whom the person or persons making any such wills or testaments, limitations, dispositions, or appointments, shall have

(b) The former statute, giving the specialty creditor a remedy against the devisee (3 W. & M. c. 14), did not extend to damages for breaches of covenant or contracts under seal made by the testator; and it was therefore held that an action of covenant did not lie upon this statute against the heir and devisee to recover damages for a breach of covenant made by the deviser, but the remedy thereby given was confined to cases where debt lies. *Wilson v. Knubley*, 7 East, 128. It was further held, in the construction of the old statute, that it applied only where a debt, in the ordinary sense of the word, existed between the parties in the lifetime of both; and therefore that an action of debt

did not lie against the devisee of a surety in respect of breaches of covenant which did not occur in the lifetime of the testator, even though the damages were liquidated, so that in form they might be sued for in an action of debt. *Farley v. Briant*, 3 Ad. & El. 839. But such damages, though not a debt within this statute, are a debt payable out of the real estate of the testator, under a charge of debts thereon created by his will. *Morse v. Tucker*, 5 Hare, 79. And a debt due on a covenant, though it be *debitum in presenti solvendum in futuro*, was held to be within the statute. *Coope v. Cresswell*, L. R. 2 Eq. 106, *coram Kindersley V. C.*

entered into any bond, *covenant*, or other specialty, binding his, her, or their heirs) to be fraudulent, and clearly, absolutely, and utterly void, frustrate, and of none effect; (c) any pretence, color, feigned or presumed consideration, or any other matter or thing to the contrary notwithstanding."

Sect. 3. "For the means that such creditors may be enabled to recover upon such bonds, *covenants*, and other specialties, be it further enacted, that in the cases before mentioned every such creditor shall and may have and maintain his, her, and their action and actions of debt or *covenant* upon the said bonds, covenants, and specialties against the heir and heirs-at-law of such obligor or obligors, covenantor or covenantors, and such devisee and devisees, or the devisee or devisees of such first mentioned devisee or devisees jointly by virtue of this act; and such devisee and devisees shall be liable and chargeable for a false plea by him or them pleaded in the same manner as any heir should have been for any false plea by him pleaded, or for not confessing the lands or tenements to him descended." (d)

Sect. 4. "If in any case there shall not be any heir-at-law \*against whom, jointly with the devisee or devisees, a remedy is hereby given, in every such case every creditor to whom by this act relief is given shall and may have and maintain his, her, and their action and actions of debt or covenant, as the case may be, against such devisee or devisees solely; and such devisee or devisees shall be liable for false plea as aforesaid." (e)

Sect. 9. "From and after the passing of this act, where any person being, at the time of his death, a trader, within Real assets of trader. the true intent and meaning of the laws relating to bankrupts, shall die seised of or entitled to any estate or interest in lands, tenements, or hereditaments, or other real estate, which he shall not by his last will have charged with or devised subject to or for the payment of his debts, and which would be assets for the payment of his debts due on any specialty in which the heirs were bound, the same shall be assets to be administered in courts

(c) It is not necessary to make the devise void that the intent of the devise was to defraud or hinder or delay creditors. *Coope v. Cresswell*, L. R. 2 Eq. 166.

(d) The mere liability of the devisee to be sued under this act does not make the

debt his debt. In *re Taylor's Estate*, 8 Ex. 384.

(e) This section is new. Under the stat. of W. & M., the specialty creditor could not maintain an action against the devisee alone, there being no heir. *Hunting v. Sheldrake*, 9 M. & W. 256.

of equity for the payment of all the just debts of such person, as well debts due on simple contract as on specialty; and that the heir or heirs-at-law, devisee or devisees of such debtor, and the devisee or devisees of such first mentioned devisee or devisees, shall be liable to all the same suits in equity, at the suit of any of the creditors of such debtor, whether creditors by simple contract or by specialty, as they are liable to at the suit of creditors by specialty, in which the heirs were bound. Provided always, that in the administration of assets by courts of equity under and by virtue of this provision, all creditors by specialty, in which the heirs are bound, shall be paid the full amount of the debts due to them before any of the creditors by simple contract or by specialty, in which the heirs are not bound, shall be paid any part of their demands." (f)

Further, by the stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104, after reciting \* it is expedient that "the payments of the debts of all persons shall be secured more effectually," it is enacted, "that from and after the passing of this act (29th August 1833), when any person shall die seised of or entitled to any estate or interest in lands, tenements, or hereditaments, corporeal or incorporeal, or other real estate, whether freehold, customaryhold, or copyhold, which he shall not by his last will have charged with or devised subject to the payment of his debts, (g) the same shall be assets to be administered in courts of equity for the payment of the just debts of such persons, as well debts due on simple contract as on specialty; (h) and that the heir or heirs-at-law, customary heir or heirs, devisee or devisees of such debtor,

3 & 4 W.  
4, c. 104.

Freehold and copyhold estates of persons dying after 29th August, 1833, in all cases to be assets for the payment of simple contract or specialty debts.

(f) In the construction of the repealed statute, 47 Geo. 3, sess. 2, c. 74, which had the same object, it was held that the act applied only to persons who were traders at the time of their decease, and not to persons who had left off trade before they died. *Keene v. Riley*, 3 Meriv. 436; *Hitchon v. Bennett*, 4 Madd. 180.

(g) See *Ball v. Harris*, 4 My. & Cr. 268.

(h) Freeholds over which a testator has a general power of appointment, and which he appoints by a last will, are within this act (but are only applicable as assets after all the testator's own property has been

previously so applied). *Fleming v. Buchanan*, 3 De G., M. & G. 976. [The rule generally prevails in the American States, that the real estate of the deceased testator or intestate may be subjected to the payment of his debts equally, in all cases, with the personal estate. 4 Kent, 421, 422; *Pratt v. Sinclair*, 6 Ohio, 227. As to the circumstances and mode of proceeding, see *ante*, 650, note (d<sup>1</sup>); *Hannum v. Day*, 105 Mass. 33; *Genl. Sts. Mass.* c. 96, §§ 7, 8; c. 102, § 1 *et seq.* As to the sale of real estate for the payment of legacies, see *post*, 1704, 1705, and note (k).]

shall be liable to all the same suits in equity at the suit of any of the creditors of such debtor, whether creditors by simple contract or by specialty, as the heir or heirs-at-law, devisee or devisees of any person or persons who died seised of freehold estates was or were before the passing of this act liable to in respect of such freehold estates, at the suit of creditors by specialty in which the heirs were bound. Provided always, that in the administration of assets by courts of equity, under and by virtue of this act, all creditors by specialty in which the heirs are bound shall be paid the full amount of the debts due to them before any of the creditors by simple contract or by specialty, in which the heirs are not bound, shall be paid any part of their demands." (i)

It was held by Sir L. Shadwell V. C. in *Spackman v. Timbrell*, (j) that the repealed statutes (3 W. & M. c. 14, and 47 Geo. 3, sess. 2, c. 74) did not specifically charge the real assets descended or devised with the debts of the ancestor, but made the heir or devisee liable, *personally*, to answer for the value of the assets descended or devised. Therefore, where H., who was a trader at his death, and indebted by specialty and simple contract, devised freehold estates to his son in fee; and the son, on his marriage, settled the estates on his wife and children, and afterwards died; his honor decided that the son's widow and children were entitled to hold the estates discharged from the debts of the father. So in *Richardson v. Horton*, (k) a settlement by the heir, upon his marriage, of the ancestor's estates was supported against the claims of the specialty creditors of such ancestor. And Lord Langdale M. R. laid down that though by taking proper proceedings, the specialty creditors may obtain payment out of the descended or devised real estate in the hands of the heir or devisee, yet if such proceedings are not taken, the heir or devisee may alienate, and in the hands of the alienee, the land is not liable, though the heir or devisee remains personally liable, to the extent of the value of the land alienated. (k<sup>1</sup>) And there does not ap-

(i) Therefore, a creditor by bond, in which the heirs are named, must be paid before a creditor by bond in which they are not named. *Richardson v. Jenkins*, 1 Drew. 477.

(j) 8 Sim. 253.

(k) 7 Beav. 112.

(k<sup>1</sup>) [See *Ticknor v. Harris*, 14 N. H. 272. In North Carolina the creditors of a deceased intestate are entitled, when there is no personal estate, to the whole of the land descended, or the price which has been received for it, until their debts are paid; and when some of the heirs of the

pear to be any reason why these decisions should not be applied to the construction of the statutes now in operation (1 W. 4, c. 47, and 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104). (*l*)

\* It is, however, a well known rule, that, as between the real and personal representatives of all persons deceased, the personal estate in the hands of the executor or administrator is the primary and natural fund, which must be resorted to in the first instance for the payment of

Primary liability of personal estate to debts of every description:

deceased have sold the lands descended to them, two years after administration granted, they are liable to the creditors for the whole of the price received and not for their aliquot share of the debt itself; and those who retain their several shares are liable for the present value of them. *Hinton v. Whitehurst*, 71 N. Car. 66. So the creditors are entitled to the rents and profits actually received by the heirs from the lands descended. If the land has been sold, the interest is the profit; and if the heir still retains his share, he is equally liable for the profits, which may be ascertained by taking the account in the usual way. *Hinton v. Whitehurst*, *supra*; *Moore v. Shields*, 68 N. Car. 327. It has been held in New Hampshire that under the statutes in force in that state, any creditor of an estate administered in the insolvent course, whose demand depended on a contingency, so that it could not be allowed by the commissioners, has a remedy against the heir and devisee. But the statute which authorizes the bringing of an action against heirs and devisees jointly, intends by heirs those only who have actually inherited. *Ticknor v. Harris*, 14 N. H. 272. It was further declared in this case that there is no provision of the common law, or by any English statute before the revolution, or by any statutes of New Hampshire, for an action by a creditor of an estate against a legatee.]

(*l*) See the observations of Lord Cottenham in *Pimm v. Insall*, 1 Mac. & G. 458; and of Romilly M. R. in 22 Beav. 21, 22. See, also, *Dilkes v. Broadmead*, 2 Giff. 113. A covenant by an infant heiress and her intended husband, in mar-

riage articles, to settle the descended estate on the issue of the marriage, is not an alienation such as to withdraw the estate from the claim of the ancestor's creditors. 1 Mac. & G. 449; 7 Hare, 193. Nor is a judgment entered up against an heir such an alienation. *Kinderley v. Jervis*, 22 Beav. 1. It has been held that the stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104, makes the lands themselves, and not merely the estate or interest of the deceased, assets for the payment of his debts. Therefore, if he dies without heirs, they are made assets against the lord claiming by escheat, notwithstanding his right is by title paramount. *Evans v. Brown*, 5 Beav. 114; *Downe v. Morris*, 3 Hare, 399; *Hughes v. Wells*, 9 Hare, 749. It has also been held that the act charges the real estate of the deceased owner (where no such charge has been made by will), not only with debts of every description actually due at his death, but also with all liabilities which may result out of the obligations entered into by him during his life. *Hamer's Devises' case*, 3 De G., M. & G. 566, overruling the decision in 3 De G. & Sm. 279. See, also, *Beale v. Symonds*, 16 Beav. 406. In order to obtain a decree for a sale for payment of the debts it is not necessary that the bill should be filed by a creditor. *Dinning v. Henderson*, 2 Coll. 330; *Price v. Price*, 15 Sim. 484; *Rodney v. Rodney*, 16 Sim. 307. But the legal personal representative ought not to be sole plaintiff. *Tubby v. Tubby*, 2 Coll. 136; *Catley v. Sampson*, 33 Beav. 551. The widow's right to dower is not affected by the act. *Spyer v. Hyatt*, 20 Beav. 621.



debts of every description, contracted by the testator or intestate. <sup>(1)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> [The order of the application of the several funds liable to the payment of debts is, according to Mr. Jarman [vol. 2 (3d Eng. ed.), 588-590], as follows: 1st. The general personal estate, not expressly or by implication exempted; and the same rule prevails in the American States. 1 Lead. Cas. in Eq. [521.] 622 *et seq.*, 638 *et seq.*, in notes to *Ancaster v. Mayer*; *Lupton v. Lupton*, 2 John. Ch. 614; *McC Campbell v. McC Campbell*, 5 Litt. 95; *Hoye v. Brewer*, 3 Gill & J. 153; *Wyse v. Smith*, 4 Gill & J. 295; *Stephens v. Gregg*, 10 Gill & J. 143; *Gibson v. McCormick*, 10 Gill & J. 65; *Chase v. Lockerman*, 11 Gill & J. 185; *Waring v. Waring*, 2 Bland, 673; *Cornish v. Wilson*, 6 Gill, 301; *Post v. Mackall*, 3 Bland, 486; *Tessier v. Wise*, 3 Bland, 28; *Garnet v. Macon*, 2 Brock. 125; S. C. 6 Call, 208; *Dunlap v. Dunlap*, 4 Desaus. 305, 329; *Haleyburton v. Kershaw*, 3 Desaus. 105; *Stuart v. Carson*, 1 Desaus. 500; *Brown v. James*, 3 Strobb. Eq. 24; *Livingston v. Livingston*, 3 John. Ch. 148; *M'Kay v. Green*, 3 John. Ch. 50; *Livingston v. Newkirk*, 3 John. Ch. 614; *Rogers v. Rogers*, 1 Paige, 188; *Morris v. Mowatt*, 2 Paige, 587; *Mollan v. Griffith*, 3 Paige, 402; *Hawley v. James*, 5 Paige, 318; *Schermerhorn v. Barhydt*, 9 Paige, 29, 49; *Kelsey v. Western*, 2 Comst. 500; *Harris v. Fly*, 7 Paige, 427; *Hoes v. Van Hoesen*, 1 Barb. Ch. 379; *Hays v. Jackson*, 6 Mass. 149; *Seaver v. Lewis*, 14 Mass. 83; *Adams v. Brackett*, 5 Met. 280; *Hancock v. Minot*, 8 Pick. 29; *Hewes v. Dehon*, 3 Gray, 206; *Gore v. Brazier*, 3 Mass. 523; *Lewis v. Thornton*, 6 Munf. 87; *Foster v. Crenshaw*, 3 Munf. 514; *McLoud v. Roberts*, 4 Hen. & Munf. 443; *Dandridge v. Minge*, 4 Rand. 397; *Elliott v. Carter*, 9 Grattan, 549; *Miller v. Harwell*, 3 Murph. 195; *Stroud v. Barnett*, 3 Dana, 394; *Hull v. Hull*, 3 Rich. Eq. 65; *Marsh v. Marsh*, 10 B. Mon. 360; *Sims v. Sims*, 2 Stockt. Ch. 158; *Clinefetter v. Ayres*, 16 Ill. 329; *Walker's Estate*, 3 Rawle, 229; *Ruston v. Ruston*, 2 Yeates, 54; *Todd v. Todd*, 1 Serg. & R. 453; *Holman's Appeal*, 24 Penn. St. 174; *Martin v. Frye*, 17 Serg. & R. 426; *Hoover v. Hoover*, 5 Penn. St. 351; *Robards v. Wortham*, 2 Dev. Eq. 173; *Palmer v. Armstrong*, 2 Dev. Eq. 268; *Leavitt v. Wooster*, 14 N. H. 551; *Perry v. Hale*, 44 N. H. 365 *et seq.*; 4 Kent, 420, 421; 1 Story Eq. Jur. § 571; *Vandeleur v. Vandeleur*, 3 Cl. & Fin. 82, 98. 2dly. Lands expressly devised to pay debts, whether the inheritance or a term carved out of it be so limited. *Anon.* 2 Ventr. 349; *Bateman v. Bateman*, 1 Atk. 421; *Phillips v. Barry*, 22 Beav. 279; *Coxe v. Bassett*, 3 Ves. 155; *Tweedale v. Coventry*, 1 Bro. C. C. 240; *Lanoy v. Duke of Athol*, 2 Atk. 444; *Hays v. Jackson*, 6 Mass. 151; *Hoover v. Hoover*, 5 Penn. St. 351; *Robards v. Wortham*, 2 Dev. Eq. 173. 3dly. Estates which descend to the heir, whether acquired before or after the making of the will. *Chaplin v. Chaplin*, 3 P. Wms. 368; *Galton v. Hancock*, 2 Atk. 424; *Manning v. Spooner*, 3 Ves. 117; *Barnewall v. Lord Cawdor*, 3 Madd. 453; *Robards v. Wortham*, 2 Dev. Eq. 173; *Elliott v. Carter*, 9 Grattan, 549; *Warley v. Warley*, 1 Bailey Eq. 397; *Brooks v. Dent*, 1 Md. Ch. 523. But in *Hays v. Jackson*, 6 Mass. 149, where the testator ordered all his debts to be paid, made a specific devise of certain lands to his sister, and devised all the residue of which he should die seised, to a residuary devisee; and he died seised of land purchased after the making of the will, and which formerly in Massachusetts did not pass thereby; and the executors applied for license to sell real estate for the payment of debts, the court directed them first to sell the devised lands not included in the specific devise, and next the lands which descended to the heirs. See *post*, 1710, note (y). It has, however, since this decision, been provided by statute in Massachusetts, that where part of the real es-

But it is clear that this principle can only regulate the equitable administration of assets, and does not extend to the legal

tate of the testator descends to his heirs, by reason of its not being devised or disposed of by his will, and his personal estate is insufficient for the payment of his debts, the undevisee real estate shall be first chargeable with the debts, in exoneration, as far as it will go, of the real estate devised, unless it appears from the will that a different arrangement of his assets for the payment of his debts was made by the testator. Genl. Sta. c. 92, § 34. 4thly. Real or personal property devised or bequeathed, either to the heir or a stranger, charged with debts and disposed of, subject to such charge. *Wride v. Clarke*, 2 Bro. C. C. 261, n.; *Hoover v. Hoover*, 5 Penn. St. 351; *Manning v. Spooner*, 3 Ves. 117; *Harmood v. Oglander*, 8 Ves. 124; *Robards v. Wortham*, 2 Dev. Eq. 173; *Watson v. Brickwood*, 9 Ves. 447; *Elliott v. Carter*, 9 Grattan, 549; *Irvin v. Ironmonger*, 2 Russ. & My. 531; *Kirkpatrick v. Rogers*, 7 Ired. Eq. 44; *Mitchell v. Mitchell*, 3 Md. Ch. 73; *Milnes v. Slater*, 8 Ves. 306; *Donne v. Lewis*, 2 Bro. C. C. 257. But since the act 1 Vict. c. 26, realty included in a general or residuary devise, must be exhausted before having recourse to specifically devised realty. *Harris v. Watkins*, Kay, 448. 5thly. Real estate comprised in a general or residuary devise. *Dady v. Hartridge*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 236; *Rotheram v. Rotheram*, 26 Beav. 465. 6thly. General pecuniary legacies *pro rata*. *Clifton v. Burt*, 1 P. Wms. 680; *Headley v. Redhead*, Coop. 50. 7thly. Specific legacies, and real estate specifically devised, are liable, *pro rata*, to contribute to the payment of debts by specialty in which the heirs are bound; and also, it is conceived, to the payment of debts by simple contract, and by specialty in which the heirs are not bound. *Long v. Short*, 1 P. Wms. 403; *Tombs v. Roch*, 2 Coll. 490; *Gervis v. Gervis*, 14 Sim. 655; *Young v. Hassard*, 1 Jo. & Lat. 472; *Chase v. Lockerman*, 11 Gill & J. 185; *Alexander v.*

*Worthington*, 5 Md. 493; *Skidmore v. Romaine*, 2 Bradf. Sur. 132; *Teas's Appeal*, 23 Penn. St. 223. Where debts remain unsatisfied, after the personal estate, and all the real estate not devised, are exhausted, the devisees must make up the deficiency of assets according to the quantum and value of their respective interests. *Livingston v. Livingston*, 3 John. Ch. 158, 159. The heir is not entitled to contribution from the devisees towards satisfaction of creditors. Nor does equity help a pecuniary legatee to throw the debt against the personal estate, upon the devisee of land, for their equities are equal. *Livingston v. Livingston*, 3 John. Ch. 158. "There seems to be no authority or reason for holding that lands specifically devised are liable to be sold for the payment of specific legacies. The most that the legatees can claim is that they should be put on an equal footing with the devisees; and that the latter, in case of a deficiency of assets, should be held to contribute. But as to this we give no opinion." *Wilde J. in Hubbell v. Hubbell*, 9 Pick. 561, 562. 8thly. Real and personal property which the testator has power to appoint, and which he has appointed by his will. *Fleming v. Buchanan*, 3 De G., M. & G. 976; *Hawthorn v. Shedden*, 3 Sm. & Gif. 305. "The order of marshalling assets in equity towards the payment of debts," according to Chancellor Kent, "is to apply, (1) the general personal estate; (2) estates specially devised for the payment of debts; (3) estates descended; (4) estates devised, though generally charged with the payment of debts. It requires express words, or the manifest intent of a testator, to disturb this order." 4 Kent, 421. See *Parsons C. J. in Hays v. Jackson*, 6 Mass. 151, 152; *Schermerhorn v. Barhydt*, 9 Paige, 29, 49; *M'Dowell v. Lawless*, 6 Monr. 141. While creditors, for the payment of their claims, are not generally confined to the general order in which a deceased person's estate is to be applied to

control of the creditor deceased; for it is discretionary with him, if his debt is of a nature to bind both the real and personal estate, whether he will resort to the personal estate in the hands of the executor, or to the real estate descended or devised. Hence, if the obligee of a bond bring an action of debt against the heir, he cannot plead that there is an executor who has assets. (*m*)

In order, therefore, to support and enforce the primary liability of the personal estate, as between the representatives of the deceased debtor, it is an established rule in equity, that if the creditor proceeds against the real estate, descended or devised, the heir or devisee, who has sustained the loss, shall be allowed to stand in the place of the specialty creditor, to reimburse himself out of the personal estate in the hands of the executors. (*n*) Provided such reimbursement \* will not prejudice *any of the creditors, or any other party having an equal or a more favored claim* than the heir or devisee respectively.

Thus, if the testator enters into a bond for himself and his heirs, and dies, and the obligee proceeds against the heir, and compels him to pay the debt out of the real assets, the heir may recover it out of the assets in the hands of the executor. (*o*) And this

the payment of his debts, legal representatives, heirs, legatees, and devisees have rights for relief against each other in case this order is disarranged; for instance, if land, specifically devised, is taken for the payment of debts, the specific devisee may call upon the legal representatives to make up his loss from the personal estate in his hands; if that has been already exhausted he may call upon the land that was specifically devised for the payment of debts; if that has been applied, he may call upon the heir to whom any part of the real estate has descended; if such land has been already taken, then the specific devisees shall contribute ratably to each other. 2 Perry Trusts, § 566; Livingston v. Livingston, 3 John. Ch. 148; Blaney v. Blaney, 1 Cush. 107; Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 92, §§ 29-36.]

(*m*) Bro. Assets, per Descent, 33; Davy v. Pepys, Plowd. 439 b; Quarles v. Capell, Dyer, 204 b; Davies v. Churchman, 3 Lev. 189; Galton v. Hancock, 2 Atk. 426.

(*n*) Treat. Eq. bk. 3, c. 2, s. 1. Accordingly, where a person domiciled in England, who was indebted in money upon bond, died intestate, leaving real estate in Scotland, and the bond debts were paid by the heir out of the produce of the real estate in Scotland, Lord Langdale M. R. held that the right of relief or demand against the personal estate, which, by the law of Scotland, is given to the heir who has paid movable debts, is capable of being made available in England. Winchelsea v. Garety, 2 Keen, 293. And in all cases where, in the course of administrations in different countries, the question arises whether particular debts are properly and ultimately payable out of the personal estate, or are chargeable on the real estate of the deceased, the law of his domicile will govern, in cases of intestacy, and, in cases of testacy, his intention. Story's Confl. ch. xiii. s. 528.

(*o*) Armitage v. Metcalf, 1 Chanc. Cas. 74; Anon. 2 Chanc. Cas. 5; Treat. Eq. bk. 3, c. 2, s. 1.

exoneration is extended not only to the *hæres natus*, the heir-at-law, but also to the *hæres factus*, the general devisee, (*p*) or a particular devisee. (*q*)

Again, it is discretionary with a mortgagee, whether he will proceed, for the recovery of his mortgage debt, against the mortgaged land which has come to the heir or devisee of the mortgagor, or against his executor. (*q*<sup>1</sup>) But if the mortgagee recovers against the land, the heir or devisee shall (unless the case is within the operation of the stat. 17 & 18 Vict. c. 113, *post*, 1702) be reimbursed out of the personal estate of the mortgagor. (*r*)

(*p*) *Lutkins v. Leigh*, Cas. temp. Talb. 54; *Galton v. Hancock*, 2 Atk. 436.

(*q*) *Pockley v. Pockley*, 2 Chanc. Cas. 84; *S. C. nomine Popley v. Popley*, 1 Vern. 36; *Galton v. Hancock*, 2 Atk. 436; *Fonbl. Treat. Eq. bk. 3, c. 2, s. 3*, note (*e*).

(*q*<sup>1</sup>) [Thomas J. in *Hewes v. Dehon*, 3 Gray, 207.]

(*r*) *Cope v. Cope*, 2 Salk. 449; *Howell v. Price*, 1 P. Wms. 292; *Johnson v. Milk-sopp*, 2 Vern. 112; *Lutkins v. Leigh*, Cas. temp. Talb. 54; *Galton v. Hancock*, 2 Atk. 436. [The general rule of law, in the absence of any expressed intent, is that debts contracted by the testator, although secured by mortgage, are to be paid out of his personal property to the exoneration of his real estate. *Gray J. in Plimpton v. Fuller*, 11 Allen, 140; *Seaver v. Lewis*, 14 Mass. 83; *Hewes v. Dehon*, 3 Gray, 205; *Towle v. Swasey*, 106 Mass. 100, 106; *Andrews v. Bishop*, 5 Allen, 490; *Gould v. Winthrop*, 5 R. I. 319; *Bradford v. Forbes*, 9 Allen, 365; *Adams's Eq.* 261, note (2) and cases cited; *McLenahan v. McLenahan*, 3 C. E. Green, 101. So if lands be devised which are held under a contract of sale, and the purchase-money is not paid, the devisee is entitled to have it paid out of the personal estate of the testator. *Lamport v. Beeman*, 34 Barb. 239; *McCracken's Appeal*, 29 Penn. St. 426.] And it will make no difference that the devise is of the lands *subject to the incumbrances thereon*; for such a qualification is no more than what is implied, since the testator could not devise them otherwise. *Serle v. St. Eloy*, 2 P.

Wms. 386; *Bickham v. Cruttwell*, 3 My. & Cr. 769; *Hickling v. Boyer*, 3 Mac. & G. 643, by Lord Truro. Accordingly, where a testator directed estates to be sold, and the produce to be applied in payment of the mortgages due from him, and the residue of the produce to be considered and applied as part of the residue of his personal estate; and he gave and devised the residue of his real and personal estate upon trust, after payment of his just debts, for the benefit of all his children; and the testator afterwards, by a codicil, confined the residuary gift of the produce of the estates directed to be sold to his younger children; it was held that the devisees of the produce of the real estate directed to be sold were entitled to have the personal estate applied in payment of the mortgages, because the gift was in effect a gift of the estates, subject to the mortgages; and the gift of an estate subject to a mortgage does not deprive the devisee of the right to satisfaction of the mortgage out of the personal estate. *Wythe v. Henniker*, 2 My. & K. 635. But where a testator having an estate subject to a mortgage of 4,460*l.* created by himself, devised it to A. B. in fee, "he paying the mortgage thereon;" and devised his residuary real and personal estates to trustees, for the payment of his debts, and he gave to the mortgagees, through the medium of his executors, 2,000*l.* to exonerate the estate; it was held that the words, "he paying the mortgage thereon," imposed a duty on the devisee, and amounted to a direction or condition that he should

\* But the land cannot be exonerated out of the personal estate to the prejudice of any person having a prior claim to be satisfied. And therefore the heir or devisee shall not stand in the place of the mortgagee against the personal assets, if by so doing he would disappoint any creditor, (*s*) or any legatee, except the residuary legatee, (*t*) or his wife's claim to *paraphernalia*. (*u*)

\* It has, indeed, been laid down, as a general proposition, that the equity, to have the personal estate applied to the exoneration of the real, subsists only between the heir or devisee, and the residuary legatee, and not against specific or general legatees. (*x*) And this is unquestionably true with respect to the exoneration of the heir. (*y*) But it appears to be clear that if a creditor, with a *general* lien on the land, as a mere bond creditor, recovers the bond debt against the real estate *devised*, the devisee will be entitled to exoneration out of the personal estate, to the disappointment of general legacies. (*z*) Whether he would also be entitled to exoneration to the disappointment of *specific* legacies, is a question which, for some time, was doubtful. (*a*) But it seems to be now settled, that the devisee would be entitled to compel the specific legatees to *contribute* to the payment of the debt, but not wholly to exonerate the land. (*b*) It should, however, be observed,

pay the mortgage, or take the estate, subject to the burden upon it, so far as the same exceeded 2,000*l*. *Lockhart v. Hardy*, 9 Beav. 379. See, also, *Goodwin v. Lee*, 1 Kay & J. 377; *Hatch v. Skelton*, 20 Beav. 453.

(*s*) *Bartholomew v. May*, 1 Atk. 487. [See *Van Vechten v. Keator*, 63 N. Y. 52; *post*, 1704, note (*f*).]

(*t*) *O'Neal v. Mead*, 1 P. Wms. 693; *Lutkins v. Leigh*, Cas. temp. Talb. 53; *Davis v. Gardiner*, 2 P. Wms. 190; *Rider v. Wager*, 2 P. Wms. 335. *A fortiori*, a specific legatee of a mortgaged leasehold shall not have contribution towards his mortgage from other specific legatees of leasehold. *Halliwell v. Tanner*, 1 Russ. & My. 633; *Wythe v. Henniker*, 2 My. & K. 635; *Johnson v. Child*, 4 Hare, 87. *Secus*, where a contrary intention is apparent. *Middleton v. Middleton*, 15 Beav. 450.

(*u*) *Tipping v. Tipping*, 1 P. Wms. 736; *ante*, 768, note (*u*).

(*z*) *Hamilton v. Worley*, 2 Ves. jr. 65;

*Fonbl. Treat. Eq. bk. 3, c. 2, s. 3*, note (*e*); [*McCracken's Estate*, 29 Penn. St. 426.]

(*y*) *Lutkins v. Leigh*, Cas. temp. Talb. 54; *Snelson v. Corbet*, 3 Atk. 369.

(*z*) It is clear that general legatees cannot marshal the assets so as to stand in the place of a mere bond creditor against the land *devised*. See *post*, 1717. And therefore it seems to follow, that the devisee shall be exonerated out of the general legacies; besides, if it were otherwise, it would have the effect of making a devisee of land, who in every case is as much a specific devisee as a legatee of a specific legacy, bear the burden of the debt, before the general pecuniary legatees.

(*a*) See *Cornewall v. Cornewall*, 12 Sim. 298.

(*b*) *Long v. Short*, 1 P. Wms. 403; *Young v. Hassard*, 1 Jones & Lat. 466; *Tombs v. Roch*, 2 Coll. 490; *Gervis v. Gervis*, 14 Sim. 654; *Hensman v. Fryer*, L. R. 3 Ch. App. 420. But see *Bateman v. Hotchkin*, 10 Beav. 426; *post*, 1718,

that a residuary devise has been held to be not specific since the new wills act (1 Vict. c. 26), (*e*) and, if this be so, these doctrines, since the act, are only applicable to a specific devisee.

\* It must be further observed that the exoneration of the real estate out of the personal is confined to cases where the claim in question is the *proper debt* of the deceased; for if it be not so, his heir or devisee must take the land *cum onere*. (*c*<sup>1</sup>) Thus, if a settler of real estate in contemplation of marriage covenants for payment of the portions of children, or widow's jointure, (*d*) or if a person makes a voluntary gift, by way of charge, and covenants for the payment of the money, (*e*) the land will be the primary fund for payment; for in these cases the charge is in its nature real and the covenant only an additional security. Accordingly in *Graves v. Hicks*, (*f*) a father having agreed to secure a marriage portion for his daughter, mortgaged part of his estates for that purpose, and covenanted to pay the money. By his will he directed his debts to be paid, first out of the residue of his personal estate, then out of his money in the funds, and lastly, out of his residuary real estates. And Sir L. Shadwell V. C. held that the mortgaged estate was not to be exonerated from the portion, out of the personal estate; his honor being of opinion that, by the plain intention of the parties, the covenant of the father was meant to be auxiliary only to the charge upon his land; and that what he contracted to do, was to give security for the marriage portion. (*g*)

Again, if a man buys an estate, subject to an existing mortgage, the land remains the proper fund for its discharge, and the heir or devisee of the purchaser cannot throw the debt on the personal estate, as the primary fund for payment. (*h*) \* So if an estate

note (*e*). [See *ante*, 1693, note (*d*<sup>1</sup>); *post*, 1718, and note (*d*).]

(*c*) *Daly v. Hartridge*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 236; *Barnwell v. Iremonger*, Ib. 242; *Rotheram v. Rotheram*, 26 Beav. 465; *Bethell v. Green*, 34 Beav. 302; *Rodhouse v. Mold*, 35 L. J. Ch. 67. But see, *contra*, *Eddels v. Johnson*, 1 Giff. 22; *Pearmain v. Twiss*, 2 Giff. 130; *Emuss v. Smith*, 2 De G. & Sm. 722; *Clark v. Clark*, 34 L. J. N. C. Ch. 477, *coram* Stuart V. C. But see, *contra*, *Hensman v. Fryer*, L. R. 3 Ch. App. 420.

(*c*<sup>1</sup>) [Thomas J. in *Hewes v. Dehon*, 3 Gray, 207; *Cumberland v. Codrington*, 3 John. Ch. 257.]

(*d*) *Lanoy v. Athol*, 2 Atk. 444; *Edwards v. Freeman*, 2 P. Wms. 438; *Coventry v. Coventry*, 2 P. Wms. 222; *Loosemore v. Knapman*, Kay, 123. But see *Field v. Moore*, 7 De G., M. & G. 691.

(*e*) *Wilson v. Darlington*, 1 Cox, 172; S. C. 2 P. Wms. 664, in the notes; *Ex parte Digby*, 1 Jac. 253; *Coote Mortg.* 588, 2d ed.

(*f*) 6 Sim. 398.

(*g*) See, also, *Ibbetson v. Ibbetson*, 12 Sim. 206; *Jenkinson v. Harcourt*, Kay, 688:

(*h*) *Coote Mortg.* 578, 2d ed.; [*Hewes v. Dehon*, 3 Gray, 206, 208; *Andrews v.*

[1697] [1698]

descends on an heir-at-law, (*i*) or is devised, (*j*) charged with a mortgaged debt, and the heir or devisee dies, leaving the debt unpaid, the land will be the fund for its payment, and not the personal estate of the deceased heir or devisee. Thus, in *Scott v. Beecher*, (*k*) a person seised of an estate, subject to a mortgage created by himself, devised all his real and personal estate to his wife absolutely, and appointed her executrix. The residuary personal estate was more than sufficient to discharge the mortgage, which was, however, continued on the estate during the life of the widow, who died intestate, leaving her brother her heir-at-law. Administration *de bonis non* to the effects of the husband, and also administration to the effects of the wife, were granted to the defendants against whom the brother filed his bill, claiming to be indemnified against the mortgage, out of the personal estate of the husband. But Sir John Leach V. C. rejected the claim, chiefly on the ground, that although the residuary personal estate of the husband had, by the will, become the property of the wife, yet the debt of her husband not having become her debt, her heir-at-law had no claim to be indemnified out of her personal estate against the debt of another person. (*l*)

\* And even a direct and original mortgage made by the person to whom land has descended or been devised, will not operate to make his personal estate the primary fund for the discharge of the mortgage debt, if the money borrowed was for the purpose of paying off the debts (*m*) or legacies (*n*) of the ancestor or de-

Bishop, 5 Allen, 490; *Cumberland v. Codrington*, 3 John. Ch. 229, 257, 272; *Rogers v. Rogers*, 1 Paige, 188; *Hoff's Appeal*, 24 Penn. St. 203; *Thompson v. Thompson*, 4 Ohio St. 333.]

(*i*) *Noel v. Lord Henley*, *Daniell's Rep.* 322; S. C. 7 Price, 241; S. C. in Dom. Proc. 12 Price, 213; *Coote Mortg.* 583, 584, 2d ed.; In re *Leeming*, 3 De G., F. & J. 43.

(*j*) 2 P. Wms. 664, note to *Evelyn v. Evelyn*; *Coote Mortg.* 584, 2d ed.

(*k*) 5 Madd. 96; *Coote Mortg.* 584, 2d ed.

(*l*) See, also, accord. *Lord Ilchester v. Lord Carnarvon*, 1 Beav. 209; *Lord Clarendon v. Barham*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 688; In re *Taylor's Estate*, 1 Ex. 384; *Swainson v. Swainson*, 6 De G., M. & G. 648;

*Hepworth v. Hill*, 30 Beav. 484, per Romilly, M. R. But in *Bond v. England*, 2 Kay & J. 44, James E. mortgaged real estate, and died intestate in 1850, leaving his father, Edward E., his heir-at-law and sole next of kin. Edward E. also died intestate, and without ever having obtained letters of administration to his son James. And it was held by Wood V. C. that the personal estate of James was liable, as between the heir and personal representative of Edward and James, to be applied in discharge of the mortgage debt.

(*m*) *Tankerville v. Fawcett*, 1 Cox, 237; S. C. 2 Bro. C. C. 57; *Perkyns v. Bayntun*, 2 P. Wms. 664 (note to *Evelyn v. Evelyn*); *Coote Mortg.* 586, 2d ed.

(*n*) *Basset v. Percival*, 1 Cox, 268; S. C. 2 P. Wms. 664, note; *Mattheson v.*

visor ; (*o*) and the law will be the same, if a bond (*p*) or note of hand (*q*) if given by the heir or devisee for the payment of debts or legacies charged on the land. However, in the case of *Barham v. Lord Thanet*, (*r*) a mortgage was made of the manor and lands of Silsden and other valuable estates, to secure a debt of 80,000*l.* and interest. The mortgagor died intestate, leaving the debt wholly unpaid ; and his heir, being pressed to pay off 30,000*l.*, part of the 80,000*l.*, procured a person to advance the sum required for the purpose, and the original mortgagee thereupon joined with the heir of the mortgagor in a deed conveying the manor and lands of Silsden to the person making the advance, subject to a proviso for redemption at the end of five years, being an equity of redemption, altogether different from the prior equity of redemption, and the interest reserved being five per cent. instead of four and a half per cent., which was the rate reserved in the original mortgage. And it was held by Sir J. Leach M. R. that it was in effect a new mortgage by the heir, and the 30,000*l.* was thereby constituted his personal debt. In *Townsend v. Mostyn*, (*s*) the rule was laid down by \* Romilly M. R. that where the owner of property adds mortgages of his own to other mortgages created by his ancestor, and unites them together, and makes himself personally liable for the payment of the aggregate sum, the whole mortgage debt then becomes his debt.

It must here be observed, that although the debt is not originally the debt of the party, yet it is optional in him, by sufficient testimony of intention, to render the debt *his own* ; in which case his personal estate will, as between his real and personal representatives, become primarily liable to discharge the debt. (*t*)

But it requires clear evidence of intention to make the debt his own. (*t*<sup>1</sup>) Thus a charge by will of debts, generally, on his real

*Hardwicke*, 2 P. Wms. 665, note ; *Billinghurst v. Walker*, 2 Bro. C. C. 604 ; *Hamilton v. Worley*, 2 Ves. jr. 62 ; *Coote Mortg.* 586, 2d ed.

(*o*) 2 Bro. C. C. 604 ; 1 Cox, 268 ; *Coote Mortg.* 586, 2d ed.

(*p*) *Billinghurst v. Walker*, 2 Bro. C. C. 604 ; *Woods v. Huntingford*, 3 Ves. 131, by Lord Alvanley ; *Coote Mortg.* 587, 2d ed.

(*q*) *Mattheson v. Hardwicke*, 2 P. Wms. 665, note.

(*r*) 3 My. & K. 607. This case was followed by Romilly M. R. in *Bagot v. Bagot*, 34 Beav. 134.

(*s*) 26 Beav. 76.

(*t*) See *Bruce v. Morice*, 2 De G. & Sm. 389 ; [*Cumberland v. Codrington*, 3 John. Ch. 272.]

(*t*<sup>1</sup>) [See *McLearn v. McLellan*, 10 Peters, 625 ; *Keyzey's case*, 9 Serg. & R. 73 ; 1 Story Eq. Jur. § 576 ; *Gibson v. McCormick*, 10 Gill & J. 66.]



and *personal* estate, will not be sufficient of itself to shift the *onus* from land which came to him already mortgaged, whether by descent, or by devise, or by sale. (*u*) So, in cases where the lands came to the deceased by descent or devise, his concurrence in the deed, and his personal covenant for payment of the money, on assignment or transfer of the mortgage, being only by way of additional security to the mortgagee, will not alter the burden, as between his real and personal representatives. (*x*) The same principle \* applies if other estates are added to the security on a further sum being lent, (*y*) or if there be a covenant on his part for increasing the rate of interest. (*z*) And it seems that if the sums borrowed by him, and added to the original mortgage, be comparatively small, equity will not consider that he had different intentions as to the different sums, but will charge the real estate with the whole. (*a*) In case the deceased was a purchaser of the equity of redemption, the rule may, perhaps, be stated to be, that unless the mortgage money form part of the consideration money for the estate, (*a*<sup>1</sup>) or the purchaser, by communication with the mortgagee, clearly take the mortgage debt on himself, it will be considered, as between his real and personal representatives, a charge on the land. (*b*) And the mere covenanting with the

(*u*) *Lawson v. Hudson*, 1 Bro. C. C. 58; S. C. 3 Bro. P. C. 424, Toml. ed.; *Ancaster v. Mayer*, 1 Bro. C. C. 454; *Hamilton v. Worley*, 2 Ves. jr. 62; S. C. 4 Bro. C. C. 199; *Butler v. Butler*, 5 Ves. 534; *Lord Ilchester v. Lord Carnarvon*, 1 Beav. 209. See *infra*.

(*x*) *Bagot v. Oughton*, 1 P. Wms. 347; *Evelyn v. Evelyn*, 2 P. Wms. 664; *Leaman v. Newnham*, 1 Ves. sen. 52; *Barham v. Lord Thanet*, 3 My. & K. 607, 622; *Lord Ilchester v. Lord Carnarvon*, 1 Beav. 209; *Hedges v. Hedges*, 5 De G. & Sm. 330. So where there had been a mortgage of gavelkind lands, which, upon the death of the mortgagee intestate, descended to his two brothers as coparceners, and the elder brother, who was the common law heir of the mortgagor, purchased of the other brother his moiety of the gavelkind lands, and covenanted with him to pay the whole mortgage money; it was held that he did not thereby make the mortgage

money his personal debt. *Barham v. Lord Thanet*, 3 My. & K. 607.

(*y*) *Ancaster v. Mayer*, 1 Bro. C. C. 454, 464.

(*z*) *Shafto v. Shafto*, 1 Cox, 607; 2 P. Wms. 664, note.

(*a*) *Lewis v. Nangle*, Ambl. 150; S. C. 2 P. Wms. 664, note; *Coots Mortg.* 585, 586, 2d ed. This latter doctrine must, it should seem, be received with much caution. *Coots Mortg.* 586, 2d ed.

(*a*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Hoff's Appeal*, 24 Penn. St. 200; *Lennig's Estate*, 52 Penn. St. 139.]

(*b*) 1 Sugd. V. & P. 310, 10th ed.; [(8th Am. ed.) 195.] Where, however, the deceased described himself, in his will, as having purchased a property, subject to a mortgage, but it appeared, on an examination of the history of the transaction, that he was the person who owed the money, although, as between himself and the mortgagee, he did not appear as the party who contracted the debt, *Lord Cottenham*

mortgagor to pay the debt will not make it his personal debt. (c) If, \* however, the purchaser *borrow*s a sum of money to enable him to complete his contract, and the estate is, on the purchase, limited to the lender either for a term of years, or in fee, by way of mortgage, the debt is the proper debt of the purchaser, and his personal estate will be primarily liable, even although part of the money borrowed be applied in discharge of an existing mortgage. (d)

By stat. 17 & 18 Vict. c. 113, it is enacted that "when any person shall, after December 31st, 1854, die seised of or entitled to any estate or interest in any land or other hereditaments which shall at the time of his death be charged with the payment of any sum or sums of money by way of mortgage, and such person shall not, by his will or deed or other document, have signified any contrary or other intention, (e) \* the heir or devisee to

[Mr. Locke King's act.] 17 & 18 Vict. c. 113. After Dec. 31, 1854, heir or devisee of real estate not to claim payment of mortgage

held that the personal estate was primarily liable. For that if a man borrows money in the name of a trustee, the debt, is, in one way or other, his from the commencement, either to the person who advances the money, or to the trustee in whose name it is borrowed. *Bickham v. Cruttwell*, 3 My. & Cr. 763.

(c) 1 Sugd. V. & P. 310, 10th ed.; [(8th Am. ed.) 195; *Cumberland v. Codrington*, 3 John. Ch. 229.] "I entirely concur," said Sir John Leach M. R. in *Barham v. Lord Thanet*, 3 My. & K. 624, "in the opinions expressed by Lord Alvanley and Sir William Grant, that the purchaser of an estate subject to a mortgage, who has no contract or communication with the mortgagee, and who merely covenants with the vendor to pay the mortgage debt, does not thereby make the mortgage money his personal debt; and that his covenant is to be considered simply as an indemnity to the vendor, who has permitted the amount of the mortgage money to be deducted from the price." A distinction has been made between the case of a man contracting to purchase a mere equity of redemption, and a contract for the purchase of an estate for a given sum, of which the mortgage debt forms part, and which, on the

purchase, is discounted out of the consideration money; in which latter case it has been considered the personal estate of the purchaser will be the primary fund. *Parsons v. Freeman*, Ambl. 116; S. C. 2 P. Wms. 664, note (1); *Belvidere v. Rochfort*, 5 Bro. P. C. 299, Toml. ed. But see *Coote Mortg.* 579, 2d ed.; 2 Jarman on Wills, 605 *et seq.*, 3d ed.

(d) *Waring v. Ward*, 5 Ves. 670; S. C. 7 Ves. 332; *Coote Mortg.* 578, 2d ed. See, also, *Marquis of Bute v. Cunyngham*, 2 Russ. 275. So where A. B. purchased an estate in consideration of an annuity, which was thereupon charged on the purchase, and also upon another estate, and A. B. covenanted to pay it, his personal estate was held primarily liable for the payment. *Yonge v. Furze*, 20 Beav. 380.

(e) See stat. 30 & 31 Vict. c. 69, that a direction for payment of debts out of personalty will not include mortgage debts, unless such intention be expressly implied. As to what shall amount to a signification "of any contrary or other intention," Lord Campbell in *Woolstencroft v. Woolstencroft*, 2 De G., F. & J. 350, expressed his opinion that the same rule should now be observed with respect to exempting the mortgaged land from the payment of the

[1702] [1703]

out of personal assets.

whom such land or hereditaments shall descend or be devised shall not be entitled to have the \* mortgage debt discharged or satisfied out of the personal estate or any other real estate of such person, but the land or hereditaments so charged

mortgaged money, as was before observed with respect to exempting the personal estate. (See *post*, 1706, 1707.) But this opinion has not been followed. (See 3 Giff. 275; 2 Johns. & H. 198.) And it has been held in several subsequent cases that if there is a specific devise of the mortgaged estate without any mentioning of the mortgaged debt, and there is also a bequest of the personal estate "subject to the payment of all the testator's debts," or the debts are directed to be paid out of it, this is a sufficient indication of intention on the part of the testator that the land should not, under the act, be primarily liable to the payment of the mortgage debt; for, under a direction to pay debts, mortgage debts are included. *Stone v. Parker*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 212; *Smith v. Smith*, 3 Giff. 263; *Mellish v. Vallins*, 2 Johns. & H. 194; *Eno v. Tatham*, 4 Giff. 181; S. C. on appeal, 32 L. J. Ch. 311; [3 De G., J. & Sm. 443;] *Moore v. Moore*, 1 De G., J. & Sm. 603; *Rodhouse v. Mold*, 35 L. J. Ch. 67; [*Rowson v. Harrison*, 31 Beav. 207, appears irreconcilable with these cases.] [A direction to pay all debts, "whether on bond and mortgage or otherwise," is sufficient in New York to exonerate the mortgaged estate. *Waldron v. Waldron*, 4 Bradf. Sur. 144. See *post*, 1704, note (f).] But if the testator directs all his debts to be paid by his executors not out of his personal estate but "out of his estate" generally (which would necessarily include his real estate), this is not a sufficient indication of a "contrary intention." *Woolstencroft v. Woolstencroft*, 2 De G., F. & J. 347, [Am. ed. note (1) and cases cited]; (reversing the decision of the V. C. 2 Giff. 192); *Maxwell v. Hyslop*, L. R. 4 Eq. Cas. 407; *Brownson v. Lawrance*, L. R. 6 Eq. Cas. 1; *Coote v. Lowndes*, L. R. 10 Eq. Cas. 376; [*Taylor v. Wendell*, 4 Bradf. Sur. 330; *Repelye v. Repelye*, 27 Barb. 610;] nor is a direction by the testator, "that all

his just debts shall be paid," without saying that they are to be paid out of his personal estate or by his executors. *Pembroke v. Friend*, 1 Johns. & H. 132. Where the owner of the equity of redemption of two estates comprised in the same mortgage specifically devised one estate, and left the other to pass by a residuary devise, it was held that he thereby signified "a contrary or other intention" within the meaning of the act, so as to make the estate which passed by the residuary devise primarily liable to the whole of the mortgage debt. *Brownson v. Lawrance*, L. R. 6 Eq. Cas. 1. In *Greated v. Greated*, 26 Beav. 621, it was held by Romilly M. R. that inasmuch as there was another fund expressly provided by the testator for payment of the mortgage debts, viz, the residue of the real and personal estate, the act did not apply; but the residue must pay the mortgage debt as directed by the will. See, also, *Allen v. Allen*, 30 Beav. 395; *Newman v. Wilson*, 31 Beav. 33; *Eno v. Tatham*, 32 L. J. Ch. 312, per Lord Justice Turner; [S. C. 3 De G., J. & Sm. 443.] The act applies to equitable mortgages. *Pembroke v. Friend*, 1 Johns. & H. 132; *Coleby v. Coleby*, 12 Jur. N. S. 496. But only where there is a defined and specified charge on a specified estate. *Hapworth v. Hill*, 30 Beav. 476. The act applies to copyholds. *Piper v. Piper*, 1 Johns. & H. 91. It was held in *Dacre v. Patrickson*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 182, in a case where personalty went to the crown, there being no next of kin, that the act applied, and the devise of a mortgaged estate was not entitled to be exonerated out of the personalty notwithstanding the words of the statute "as between the different persons claiming through or under the deceased person." See, further, as to what is an "interest in land" within the meaning of the statute, *Lewis v. Lewis*, L. R. 13 Eq. Cas. 218.

shall, as between the different persons claiming through or under the deceased person, be primarily liable to the payment of all mortgage debts with which the same shall be charged, every part thereof, according to its value, bearing a proportionate part of the mortgage debts charged on the whole thereof. (f) Provided, always, that nothing herein contained shall affect or diminish any right of the mortgagee on such lands or hereditaments to obtain full payment or satisfaction of his mortgage debt, either out of the personal estate of the person so dying as aforesaid or otherwise. Provided, also, that nothing herein contained shall affect the rights of any person claiming under or by virtue of any will, deed, or document already made, or to be made before Jan. 1, 1855." (g)

It frequently occurs that the deceased has devised his real estate for the payment of his debts, or of his debts and legacies, or has charged his real estate with their payment. (h) With respect to the exoneration of the real estate charged

(f) See *Evans v. Wyatt*, 31 Beav. 217. [In New York the payment of the bond of, the testator secured by a mortgage of real estate is, by 1 R. S. 749, § 4, primarily charged upon the real estate mortgaged, and cannot be made out of the personal estate, unless by an express provision, or a necessary implication in the will. *Waldron v. Waldron*, 4 Bradf. Sur. 114; *Johnson v. Corbett*, 11 Paige, 265; *House v. House*, 10 Paige, 158. In *Van Vechten v. Keator*, 63 N. Y. 52, it appeared that the will of the testatrix, by its first clause, charged her real estate with the payment of her debts, and empowered her executors to sell so much thereof as should be necessary for that purpose. By the second clause she bequeathed her personal property to S. By the third and last clause she devised all her real estate to her executors in trust for the benefit of S. and her husband for their lives, with remainder over to their children. It was held that the devise was subject to the power in trust vested in the executors by the first clause; that a sale in pursuance thereof operated as a conversion of the realty sold into personalty as to so much of the proceeds as were required for the payment of debts; that the executors could only sell

as such, and for the payment of debts for which resort could be had to them as executors, and for the payment of which, but for the will, the personalty would have been the primary fund; that the executors were not chargeable with the payment of mortgages upon the real estate; and that, therefore, such proceeds could not be applied to the payment of mortgage debts to the prejudice of creditors not secured by mortgage.]

(g) The heir of an intestate, who before January 1, 1855, executed a mortgage reserving the equity of redemption to himself and his heirs, is not within this saving clause; for the heir claims by descent and not under any instrument. *Piper v. Piper*, 1 Johns. & H. 91. But a will executed before January 1, 1855, is a will "already made" within the meaning of the clause, notwithstanding the testator died after that day. Nor does a mere republication by codicil, giving no new operation to the material dispositions of the will, deprive it of that character. *Rolfe v. Perry*, 32 L. J. Ch. 471.

(h) As to what shall be sufficient to charge the real estate with debts and legacies, see 1 *Rop. Leg.* 571 *et seq.*, 3d ed.; 2 *Pow. Dev.* 644 *et seq.*, Jarman's ed.; 2 *Jarman on Wills*, 552, 3d ed. [See *ante*,

with debts and legacies: estate from legacies, the general rule is equally clear, as it is with respect to debts, that the personal estate is the first and natural fund for the payment of them; and the real estate is only \*to be resorted to in aid of the personal. Therefore, even in cases where there is no doubt as to debts and legacies being effectually charged by the testator on the real estate, yet the personal estate remains undischarged from its primary liability to those claims. (i)

Accordingly it has long been the settled rule of courts of equity, that the direction of the testator to sell or mortgage his real estate for the payment of his debts and legacies, is not alone evidence of the intention of the testator that the personal estate should be exempt from those charges, and amounts only to a declaration that the real estate shall be so applied to the extent in which the personal estate, which by law is the primary fund, shall be insufficient for those purposes. (k)

Nevertheless, it is clear, that a testator may, if he pleases,

1693, note (l); *Shreve v. Shreve*, 2 Green (N. J.), 487. A devise of land charged with the payment of a legacy, if he accepts the devise, is liable to a suit for the legacy; and so is his assignee; *post*, 1931, note (k<sup>1</sup>); *Cronkhite v. Cronkhite*, 1 N. Y. Sup. Ct. 266, 268, 270. But the devise of a residue imposes no duty on the residuary legatee to pay an annuity not charged on it. *Cronkhite v. Cronkhite*, 1 N. Y. Sup. Ct. 266, 268, 269.]

(i) *Davies v. Ashford*, 15 Sim. 42; *Roberts v. Roberts*, 13 Sim. 336. [The personal estate is not relieved from liability in the first instance, where the legacy is made a charge on real estate, unless such is indicated in the will as the intention of the testator. *Bell C. J. in Perry v. Hale*, 44 N. H. 365; *Hanna's Appeal*, 31 Penn. St. 53; *Glen v. Fisher*, 6 John. Ch. 44; *Adams's Eq.* 263, note; *Paterson v. Scott*, 1 De G., M. & G. 531; *Buckley v. Buckley*, 11 Barb. 77; *Leavitt v. Wooster*, 14 N. H. 550; *Hassanclever v. Tucker*, 2 Binn. 525. Still, disappointed legatees will be entitled to relief against the land charged. *Paterson v. Scott*, 1 De G., M. & G. 531;

*Lockwood v. Stockholm*, 11 Paige, 87 *Cryder's Appeal*, 11 Penn. St. 72.]

(k) *Rhodes v. Rudge*, 1 Sim. 84, 85; *Walker v. Hardwicke*, 1 My. & K. 396; [*Van Vechten v. Keator*, 63 N. Y. 52. By statute, in Massachusetts, when a testator has given a legacy, which with his debts and the charges of administration, his goods, chattels, rights, and credits, are insufficient to pay, the executor, or the administrator with the will annexed, may be licensed to sell real estate for that purpose, in the same manner and upon the same terms and conditions as are prescribed in the case of a sale for the payment of debts. *Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 102*, § 19; *ante*, 650, note (d<sup>1</sup>), 1691, note (A). See *Gibbens v. Curtis*, 8 Gray, 392. This provision is, of course, subject to the rules for the marshalling of assets. See *Ellis v. Page*, 7 Cush. 161; *Hays v. Jackson*, 6 Mass. 151; *ante*, 1693, note (l<sup>1</sup>); *post*, 1717, 1718. Lands, specifically devised, are not subject to be sold for the payment of specific legacies. *Ellis v. Page*, 7 Cush. 163; *Hubbell v. Hubbell*, 9 Pick. 561; *ante*, 1693, note (l<sup>1</sup>).]

give the personal estate as against his heir or any other real representative, discharged from the payment of his debts and legacies. (l) And in such case the rules of exoneration in favor of the heir or the devisee, which have hitherto been the subject of this chapter, altogether fail of application.

A most important question, therefore, arises, viz, what is the mode of expression, on the part of the testator, which will give the personal estate exempt from such payment, in contravention of the ordinary rule that such estate is first liable.

In the earlier cases it was laid down that express words of exemption were necessary. (m) But this rule has been relaxed by subsequent decisions; and it is now settled that \*the personal fund will be exempted, if the intention of the testator in its favor can be collected from a sound interpretation put upon the whole will; in other words, if there appears from the whole testamentary disposition taken together, an intention on the part of the testator so expressed, as to convince a *judicial* mind, that it was meant, not merely to charge the real estate, but so to charge it as to exempt the personal. (n)

It is obvious, therefore, that it is impossible to lay down any general rule as a guide upon this question; since the construction of every will, in which the point arises, must depend merely upon the individual circumstances of the particular case; and in these, as in all other cases of inference or implication, except necessary or logical implication, there may be a difference of opinion between the most eminent judges who are called on to consider the circumstances. The difficulty with which the whole subject is surrounded is demonstrated by the following observations of Lord Eldon in *Bootle v. Blundell*. (o) "On a comparison of all the cases which have arisen, it is scarcely possible to find any two in which the court altogether agrees with itself; there being scarcely a single circumstance that is considered in one case as a ground of inference in favor of the intention, but it is considered in other cases as against the same inference; and I can find no rule deducible from all that has been said on the subject, but this (which

(l) *Ancaster v. Mayer*, 1 Bro. C. C. 462. See *Fisher v. Fisher*, 2 Keen, 610, as to the consequence, in such a case, of a partial failure, by lapse, of the devise of the real estate by the death of one of the devisees in the testator's lifetime.

(m) *Fereyes v. Robertson*, Bunb. 302; *Dolman v. Smith*, Prec. Chanc. 458.

(n) By Lord Eldon in *Bootle v. Blundell*, 1 Meriv. 230; *Dawes v. Scott*, 5 Russ. 32.

(o) 1 Meriv. 219.

appears to be a rule supported by all the cases taken together), namely, that since it has been laid down that express words are not necessary to exempt the personal estate, there must be in the will that which is sometimes denominated 'evident demonstration,' sometimes 'plain intention,' and 'necessary implication,' to operate that exemption." (*p*)

In some of the earlier cases, evidence *dehors* the will was \*received to show the testator's intention. But on this point, Lord Eldon expressed his clear opinion, in *Bootle v. Blundell*, (*q*) that with regard to circumstances *dehors* the will, which have been sometimes called in to assist in explaining it, such as the respective amount of the real and personal estate, the greater or less degree of personal favor which the testator may be presumed to have entertained towards this or that object of his bounty, and others of that nature, they ought all to be set aside in the consideration of a question depending on a will, such question being fit to be decided only by an examination of the whole will taken together. (*r*)

The principle which has the greatest influence on the determination of this question, and which has been uniformly supported by all the cases, is, that it is not enough for the testator to have charged his real estate with, or in any manner devoted it to, the payment of his debts and legacies. The rule of construction is such as aims at finding, not that the real estate is charged, but that the personal estate is discharged. (*s*) In other words, it is not by an intention to charge the real, but by a plain intention to discharge the personal estate, that the question is to be decided. (*t*)

(*p*) See the observations made on this passage by Knight Bruce V. C. in *Collis v. Robins*, 1 De G. & Sm. 141.

(*q*) 1 Meriv. 216.

(*r*) See, also, *Inchiquin v. French*, 1 Cox, 9; *Stephenson v. Heathcote*, 1 Eden, 39; *Andrews v. Emmot*, 2 Bro. C. C. 297; *Standen v. Standen*, 2 Ves. jr. 589; *Coote v. Coote*, 3 Jones & Lat. 175.

(*s*) 1 Meriv. 220.

(*t*) 1 Meriv. 230; *Bickham v. Cruttwell*, 3 My. & Cr. 768; *Collis v. Robins*, 1 De G. & Sm. 131, 141. [The intention of the testator to first charge the realty with the payment of legacies must be either ex-

pressed or clearly implied, not only as an intention to charge realty, but to exonerate personalty. *Whitehead v. Gibbon*, 2 Stockt. Eq. 230; *Kelsey v. Western*, 2 Comst. 506; *Dodge v. Manning*, 1 Comst. 298; *Livingston v. Newkirk*, 3 John. Ch. 325; *Tole v. Hardy*, 6 Cowen, 333; *Allan v. Gott*, L. R. 4 Ch. App. 439; *Kirkpatrick v. Rogers*, 7 Ired. Eq. 44; *McC Campbell v. McC Campbell*, 5 Litt. 98; *Mitchell v. Mitchell*, 3 Md. Ch. 73; *Perry v. Hale*, 44 N. H. 366; *Seaver v. Lewis*, 14 Mass. 83; *Hanna's Appeal*, 31 Penn. St. 57; *Robards v. Wortham*, 2 Dev. Eq. 179; *Palmer v. Armstrong*, 2 Dev. Eq. 268; *Marsh*

Thus it has been held that a mere bequest of residuary personal estate by the term "residue," (*u*) or "*all* my personal estate," (*x*) or a like bequest, after previous sums or articles given out of it, (*y*) or as of personal property "*not* \* otherwise disposed of," (*z*) is not singly sufficient to exempt the personal fund from its natural primary obligation to pay debts and legacies, although the real estate be also subjected to their payment by the will. Again, charging the real estate ever so anxiously for the discharge of debts, will not of itself exempt the personal. (*a*) And whether the whole real estate be charged with debts and legacies, (*b*) or a sufficient part of it, (*c*) or a specific part of it, (*d*) or it be given in trust to pay debts and legacies by sale of it, (*e*) or a term of years be created out of it for those purposes, (*f*) still the personal estate must be *first* applied. Again, neither a devise for payment of debts and legacies out of the rents of real estates, (*g*) nor a devise on condition of the devisee paying the debts, (*h*) nor a mere charge of funeral and testamen-

*v. Marsh*, 10 B. Mon. 360. It is held sufficient if there appears upon the will a plain intention or necessary implication. *Hoes v. Van Hoesen*, 1 Comst. 120.]

(*u*) *Samwell v. Wake*, 1 Bro. C. C. 144; *Tait v. Lord Northwick*, 4 Ves. 824.

(*x*) *Harewood v. Child*, cited Cas. temp. Talb. 204; *Haslewood v. Pope*, 3 P. Wms. 324; *Brummel v. Prothero*, 3 Ves. 111; *Aldridge v. Wallscourt*, 1 Ball & Beat. 312. But see *post*, 1710.

(*y*) *Brydges v. Phillips*, 6 Ves. 567.

(*z*) *Hartley v. Hurle*, 5 Ves. 540.

(*a*) By Lord Loughborough in *Tait v. Northwick*, 4 Ves. 824; [*Livingston v. Newkirk*, 3 John. Ch. 319.]

(*b*) *Dolman v. Smith*, Prec. Chanc. 456.

(*c*) *Inchiquin v. French*, Ambl. 33, 37; S. C. 1 Cox, 1; *Rhodes v. Rudge*, 1 Sim. 79.

(*d*) *White v. White*, 2 Vern. 43; *Bridgman v. Dove*, 3 Atk. 201; *Fitzgerald v. Field*, 1 Russ. C. C. 428.

(*e*) *Inchiquin v. French*, 1 Cox, 1; S. C. Ambl. 33; *Hancox v. Abbey*, 11 Ves. 186.

(*f*) *Tower v. Rons*, 18 Ves. 132.

(*g*) *Hartley v. Hurle*, 5 Ves. 540.

(*h*) *Bridgman v. Dove*, 3 Atk. 201.

[But this would seem to be one of the circumstances to be weighed with others in the will, as indicating the intention of the testator. An absolute and specific disposition of all the personal estate of the testator, not a mere residuary bequest, is sufficient to manifest the intention of the testator to charge the realty in exoneration of the personalty. *Kelley v. Deyo*, 3 Cowen, 133. From the principle that the personal estate is the fund first liable to the payment of legacies, it results that where the personal estate is not intended to be exonerated, the receipt by the executor of personal assets, sufficient to pay the legacies, discharges the real estate from any further liability for the payment of them; and where such assets are wasted or misapplied by the executor, the loss falls upon the legatee; and he cannot resort to the real estate, upon which the legacy is charged, either in the hands of the devisee or of any purchaser from him. *Sims v. Sims*, 2 Stockt. (N. J.) 168; *Glen v. Fisher*, 6 John. Ch. 34; *Birdsall v. Hewlett*, 1 Paige, 32." *Bell C. J.* in *Perry v. Hale*, 44 N. H. 366.]

[1708]



tary expenses, as well as debts, on the land, (i) nor an express charge of only *some* of the debts upon the *personalty*, (k) will exempt the personal fund from its legal primary liability. (l)

A very strong inference against the claim of exemption of the personal estate appears to be the circumstance of its falling to the executor for his benefit *virtute officii*, (m) prior to the statute 1 W. 4, c. 40, (n) or in an instance of the \*gift of the personal estate to the executor as a legacy, and the appointment of him to be executor, being in one and the same sentence; (o) but the converse of the proposition above stated, i. e. the gift of the legacy, and the appointment of the legatee to be executor, being in distinct sentences, will not of itself afford an inference for the exemption of the personal estate. Cases are, however, to be found, in which the executor has been held to take the personal estate, or residue of a personal estate, as a specific legacy, exempt from the payment of debts. (p)

Again, the circumstance of the *same persons* being appointed trustees and executors, has had considerable weight in inducing judges to draw an inference, that the personal estate is not to be exempted; (q) and Lord Alvanley has remarked, (r) that the circumstance of the trustees not being the executors affords a strong inference as to the real intention, and is always favorable to the exemption of the personal estate. (s)

It has been already stated that a *mere charge* of funeral expenses upon the real estate will not exempt the personal fund from its primary liability to debts, &c. However, such a charge, in concurrence *with other circumstances*, has, in some cases, had importance attached to it, in exempting the personal estate from debts, &c. upon the reasoning, that, as funeral expenses primarily attach themselves to the personal fund in the hands of executors, the testator, by transferring that duty from them to the

(i) Walker v. Jackson, 2 Atk. 626; (n) See *ante*, 1475.  
 Stephenson v. Heathcote, 1 Eden, 38; (o) Broomhall v. Wilbraham, Cas.  
 Brydges v. Phillips, 6 Ves. 570. See, also, temp. Talb. 274; Rhodes v. Rudge, 1  
 Gray v. Minnethorpe, 3 Ves. 103; Hart- Sim. 79; Coote Mortg. 548, 2d ed.  
 ley v. Hurle, 5 Ves. 540; M'Clelland v. (p) Hall v. Brooker, Gilb. Eq. Rep. 73;  
 Shaw, 2 Sch. & Lef. 538; Bootle v. Blun- Coote Mortg. 548, 2d ed.  
 dell, 1 Meriv. 228, 229. But see *post*, 1709. (q) Dolman v. Smith, Prec. Chanc.  
 (k) Watson v. Brickwood, 9 Ves. 447. 456; Coote Mortg. 549, 2d ed.  
 (l) 1 Rep. Leg. 609, 3d ed. (r) Burton v. Knowlton, 3 Ves. 108.  
 (m) Gray v. Minnethorpe, 3 Ves. 106; (s) Coote Mortg. 549, 2d ed.  
 Coote Mortg. 547, 2d ed.

trustees of the real estate, must have intended to give the whole of the personalty to the legatee, specifically discharged from every obligation to which it was naturally liable. (*t*) On the other hand, in some \* instances, the omission to charge funeral expenses on the real estate has been considered a circumstance of some weight to show that the personal estate is not to be exempt, because it shows that the testator intends the personal estate to be charged beyond the particular legacies or charges mentioned in the will, and being once broken in upon, the argument of its being specific is destroyed. (*u*)

Again, there has been occasion to state that the personalty is not exempted by the facts of the debts, &c. being charged upon the real estate, and a mere concomitant bequest of *all* the personal estate. (*x*) However, in several instances, the circumstance of such a bequest, as distinguished from a gift of the *residue*, has been treated as having weight. (*y*)

The limits of this treatise will not allow that the different instances, in which the intention of the testator in favor of the exemption of the personal estate has been established, should be stated at large. The principal decisions of that nature will be found collected in the note below, (*z*) and the \* attention of the

(*t*) *Burton v. Knowlton*, 3 Ves. 108. See, also, *Greene v. Greene*, 4 Madd. 157; *Michell v. Michell*, 5 Madd. 69.

(*u*) *Brydges v. Phillips*, 6 Ves. 570; *Coote Mortg.* 551, 2d ed.

(*x*) *Ante*, 1707.

(*y*) *Tower v. Rous*, 18 Ves. 139; *Booth v. Blundell*, 1 Meriv. 228; *Greene v. Greene*, 4 Madd. 148; *Michell v. Michell*, 5 Madd. 69; *Gilbertson v. Gilbertson*, 34 Beav. 354. [Where the testator bequeathed his personal property, not by a residuary clause, but by an absolute bequest, and devised property in trust to his executors, and directed them, out of the proceeds, to pay his debts, it was held that this manifested a clear intention of the testator to give the personal property to the legatee, his wife, exempt from the liability to pay his debts. *Lee*, appellant, 18 Pick. 285. See, also, *Bardwell v. Bardwell*, 10 Pick. 19; *Wallace v. Wallace*, 23 N. H. 149. In *Lee*, appellant, *supra*, *Shaw C. J.* said: "When it appears to have been the in-

tention of the testator to provide for the payment of debts by a sale of real estate, and not merely by a general charge of debts on the real estate, there the proceeds of such real estate shall be first applied."

"The only question then is, whether descended real estate shall go for the payment of debts before personal estate absolutely bequeathed, and intended to be exempt from the payment; and the court are of opinion that the descended real estate should be first applied. *Livingston v. Newkirk*, 3 John. Ch. 319." See *ante*, 1693, note (*B*).]

(*z*) *Waise v. Whitfield*, 8 Vin. Abr. 437, tit. *Devise*, Z. d. pl. 19; *Adams v. Meyrick*, 1 Eq. Cas. Abr. 271, pl. 13; *March v. Fowke*, Finch Rep. 414; *Wainwright v. Bendlowes*, 2 Vern. 718; S. C. Prec. Chanc. 451; *Anderton v. Cooke*, cited 1 Bro. C. C. 457; *Bamfield v. Wyndham*, Prec. Chanc. 101; *Bicknel v. Page*, 2 Atk. 79; *Kynaston v. Kynaston*, 1 Bro. C. C. 457, *in notis*; *Holliday v. Bowman*,

[1710] [1711]

reader is particularly directed to the case of *Bootle v. Blundell*, (a) in which almost every circumstance occurred which had been the subject of judicial observations in preceding cases, and upon which different judges had formed different opinions as to their effect singly to exonerate the personal estate; and Lord Eldon, after going through a review of those cases, and making full observations upon every part of the will, determined that the personal estate was exonerated from the primary liability to pay debts.

It is necessary, before leaving this subject, to advert to a distinction which exists with respect to it, between debts <sup>legacies given out of a particular fund:</sup> and legacies. It has already appeared, that a pecuniary legacy, given generally, without specification of a particular fund for its payment, is primarily chargeable upon the personal estate, although in other parts of the will, the real estate is made expressly liable to it; the rule of law considering the personal estate as the natural fund to bear such a charge. (b) But if the pecuniary legacy be not given generally, but given only out of a particular fund, there the legatee can have recourse only to the particular fund; (c) and in this \*there is an essential difference between debts and legacies. (d)

cited 1 Bro. C. C. 145; *Gaskill v. Hough*, cited 31 Ves. 110; *Atty. Gen. v. Barkham*, cited *Cas. temp. Talb.* 206; *Stapleton v. Colville*, *Cas. temp. Talb.* 202; *Phipps v. Annesley*, 2 Atk. 57; *Walker v. Jackson*, 2 Atk. 624; *S. C.* 1 Wils. 24; *Williams v. Bishop of Llandaff*, 1 Cox, 254; *Webb v. Jones*, 1 Cox, 245; *S. C.* 2 Bro. C. C. 60; *Burton v. Knowlton*, 3 Ves. 107; *Hancox v. Abbey*, 11 Ves. 179; *Bootle v. Blundell*, 1 Meriv. 193; *Gittins v. Steele*, 4 Swanst. 24; *Greene v. Greene*, 4 Madd. 148; *Michell v. Michell*, 5 Madd. 69; *Noel v. Noel*, 12 Price, 213; *Walby v. Rockcliffe*, 1 Russ. & My. 571; *Driver v. Ferrand*, *Ib.* 681; *Clutterbuck v. Clutterbuck*, 1 My. & K. 15; *Blount v. Hipkins*, 7 Sim. 43; *Vandeleur v. Vandeleur*, 9 Bligh, 157; [*S. C.* 3 Cl. & Fin. 82;] *Jones v. Bruce*, 11 Sim. 221. And see the cases stated 1 *Rop. Leg.* 610 *et seq.*, 3d ed.; 2 *Pow. Dev.* 681, *et seq.*, *Jarman's ed.*; *Coote Mortg.* 544 *et seq.*, 2d ed.; 2 *Jarm. Dev.* 613 *et seq.*, 3d ed.; *Ashby v. Ashby*, 1 Coll. 549; *Bateman v. Roden*, 1 Jones &

*Lat.* 356; *Lamphier v. Despard*, 2 Dr. & W. 59; *Coote v. Coote*, 3 Jones & Lat. 175; *Collis v. Robins*, 1 De G. & Sm. 131; *Onseley v. Anstruther*, 10 Beav. 453; *Lomax v. Lomax*, 12 Beav. 285; *Quennell v. Turner*, 13 Beav. 240; *Woodhead v. Turner*, 4 De G. & Sm. 429; *Evans v. Evans*, 17 Sim. 102; *Whieldon v. Spode*, 15 Beav. 537; *Plenty v. West*, 16 Beav. 173; *Forrest v. Prescott*, L. R. 10 Eq. Cas. 545.

(a) 1 Meriv. 193.

(b) *Ante*, 1704, 1707.

(c) *Kirke v. Kirke*, 4 Russ. 435, 449; [*Walls v. Stewart*, 16 Penn. St. 275, 288, and cases cited.] See *Spurway v. Glynn*, 9 Ves. 483; *Hancox v. Abbey*, 11 Ves. 179; *Gittins v. Steele*, 1 Swanst. 24; *Rickets v. Ladley*, 3 Russ. 418; *Roberts v. Roberts*, 13 Sim. 336; *Dickin v. Edwards*, 4 Hare, 273, 276; *Fream v. Dowling*, 20 Beav. 624. But see, also, *Mann v. Copeland*, and the other cases cited, *ante*, 1170. See, further, *Colville v. Middleton*, 3 Beav. 570.

(d) 4 Russ. 449. See *Noel v. Lord*

Further, it may be stated as a rule, that where a testator gives a certain portion of his personal estate and expressly directs that it shall be liable and applicable to the payment of his debts, it is an exoneration of the general personal estate. (*e*)

exoneration of the general personal estate.

Where the testator directs a sale of his real estate, and the proceeds and the personal estate are thrown into one mass, which he subjects to the payment of debts and legacies, the real and the personal estate must contribute, in proportion to their relative amounts, to the payment of the debts and legacies. (*f*) But this rule is not applicable where the real and personal estate are not thrown into one mass, notwithstanding they are both given to the same persons, in trust therewith to pay debts and legacies; for in such case each fund retains its original character and its original liabilities. (*g*) In order that the rule should apply there must be a direction for the sale of the real estate.

Mixed fund of real and personal estate in one mass directed to be applied to payment of debts and legacies:

Henley, 7 Price, 241; S. C. Daniell, 211; S. C. in Dom. Proc. 12 Price, 213, *nomine* Noel v. Noel.

(*e*) Webb v. De Beauvoisin, 31 Beav. 576; Vernon v. Manvers, 31 Beav. 623; Coventry v. Coventry, 2 Dr. & Sm. 470.

(*f*) Roberts v. Walker, 1 Russ. & My. 572; Dunk v. Fenner, 2 Russ. & My. 557; Fourdrin v. Gowdey, 3 My. & K. 383; Stocker v. Harbin, 3 Beav. 479; Salt v. Chattaway, 3 Beav. 576; West v. Cole, 4 Y. & Coll. 460; Young v. Hassard, 1 Jones & Lat. 466; Barry v. Harding, Ib. 475; Atty. Gen. v. Southgate, 12 Sim. 77; Shallcross v. Wright, 12 Beav. 505; Robinson v. Governors of London Hospital, 10 Hare, 19. See, also, Falkner v. Grace, 9 Hare, 282; Lord v. Wightwick, 1 Drew. 576; Tatlock v. Jenkins, Kay, 654; Bentley v. Oldfield, 19 Beav. 225, 228; Simmons v. Rose, 21 Beav. 37; 6 De G., M. & G. 411; [Elliott v. Carter, 9 Grattan, 541; Hubbard J. in Adams v. Brackett, 5 Met. 280, 282; Hassanclever v. Tucker, 2 Binn. 525; Witman v. Norton, 6 Binn. 395; Cox v. Corkendall, 2 Beasley (N. J.), 138; Ford v. Gaithur, 2 Rich. Eq. 270; 2 Jarman Wills (3d Eng. ed.) 592. If legacies are given generally, and the residue

of the real and personal estate is afterwards given in one mass, the legacies are a charge on the residuary real as well as the personal estate. Greville v. Brown, 7 H. L. Cas. 689; Wheeler v. Howell, 3 Kay & J. 198; Gyett v. Williams, 2 Johns. & H. 429; In re Brooke, Brooke v. Brooke, 3 Ch. Div. 630; Hays v. Jackson, 6 Mass. 149; Wilcox v. Wilcox, 13 Allen, 252; Robinson v. McIver, 63 N. Car. 649; Johnson v. Farrell, 64 N. Car. 268; Lewis v. Darling, 16 How. (U. S.) 10; Gallagher's Appeal, 48 Penn. St. 122; Moore v. Beckwith, 14 Ohio St. 135. As to the degree of assent given to this rule in Connecticut, see Gridley v. Andrews, 8 Conn. 1. In New York, see Myers v. Eddy, 47 Barb. 264; Lupton v. Lupton, 2 John. Ch. 614; Shulters v. Johnson, 38 Barb. 80. In New Jersey, see Van Winkle v. Van Houten, 2 Green Ch. 172; Dey v. Dey, 4 C. E. Green, 137. In South Carolina, see Laurens v. Read, 14 Rich. Eq. 245.]

(*g*) Boughton v. Boughton, 1 H. L. Cas. 406; Blann v. Bell, 5 De G. & Sm. 658; Tidd v. Lister, 3 De G., M. & G. 857; Tench v. Cheese, 6 De G., M. & G. 453. [See Lewis v. Darling, 16 How. (U. S.) 10; Buckley v. Buckley, 11 Barb. 43;

It may here be mentioned that where there is a specific devise or a specific legacy, the presumption is that the testator intended that the devisee or legatee should have it in its integrity. Therefore a general charge of particular legacies \* on the whole real and personal estate will not be allowed to operate as a charge in derogation of such specific devises or legacies. (h)

The expression in a will, "all my just debts," includes all the testator's debts whenever and wherever contracted, and therefore includes a debt contracted by him after the making of the will, and contracted in a country other than that of his domicile, and secured upon property in that country. (i)

"All my just debts," meaning of.

## SECTION II.

### *Of Marshalling the Assets in Favor of Creditors and Legatees.*

It is a general principle of equity, that if a claimant has two funds to which he may resort, a person having an interest in one only has a right to compel the former to resort to the other; if that is necessary for the satisfaction of both. (j) This principle is not confined to the administration of the estate of a person deceased, but applies wherever the election of a party having two funds will disappoint the claimant having the single fund. And accordingly, a court of equity will, if necessary, control that election, and compel the one to resort to that fund which the other cannot reach. (k) But the more general practice is, to protect the claimant on the single fund by marshalling the assets.

Thus, if the deceased died before the passing of the stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104, (l) i. e. before the 29th of August, 1833, and there were creditors of the deceased by specialty, and creditors by simple contract, and the specialty creditors, instead

In favor of creditors.

Hassanclever v. Tucker, 2 Binn. 525; Clery's Appeal, 35 Penn. St. 54.]

(h) Spong v. Spong, 1 Dow & Cl. 365; ante, 1171, note (d); Conron v. Conron, 7 H. L. Cas. 168.

(i) Maxwell v. Maxwell, L. R. 4 H. L. 506.

(j) 8 Ves. 388; Tidd v. Lister, 3 De G., M. & G. 857, 872; Haynes v. Forshaw,

11 Hare, 93; Legh v. Legh, 15 Sim. 135; Finch v. Shaw, 19 Beav. 500; Gibson v.

Seagrim, 20 Beav. 614; South v. Bloxham, 2 Hemm. & M. 457; [Rice v. Harbison, 63 N. Y. 493, 498.]

(k) See Fonbl. Treat. Eq. bk. 3, c. 2, s. 6, note (i).

(l) See ante, 1691.

of resorting to the real assets, which they alone could \* reach, proceeded against the personal estate, to the exclusion of the simple contract creditors, who had no other fund, a court of equity would marshal the assets by permitting the simple contract creditors to stand in the place of the specialty creditors against the real assets, so far as the latter should have exhausted the personal. (*m*) And the rule was the same with respect to real assets devised as those descended. (*n*)

So, in a modern case, (*o*) the testator died seised of freehold and copyhold estate, both of which were subject to mortgage. The personal estate was exhausted in payment of the mortgage and of two bonds upon which the testator was indebted to the mortgagee. And Lord Eldon held that the simple contract creditors were entitled to stand in the place of the mortgagee *pro tanto*, against both the freehold and copyhold estate. So, in another case, (*p*) the specialty creditors of a deceased mortgagor of copyhold and freehold estate were allowed to stand in the place of the mortgagee against the copyholds, to the extent of the sum which the mortgagee had received from the freehold estate. (*q*)

\* Again, if the vendor of an estate, the contract for which was not completed in the lifetime of the testator, who was the purchaser, is afterwards paid his purchase-money out of the personal assets, the simple contract creditors of the testator shall stand in the place of the vendor, with respect to his lien on the estate sold, against the devisee of that estate. (*r*)

It may here be observed, that in *Greenwood v. Taylor*, (*s*) Sir

(*m*) But they shall not stand in the place of the specialty creditors as to the interest which would have accrued on the specialty debts if they had remained unsatisfied. *Cradock v. Piper*, 15 Sim. 301.

(*n*) *Sagitary v. Hyde*, 1 Vern. 455; *Neave v. Alderton*, 1 Eq. Cas. Abr. 144, pl. 21; *Wilson v. Fielding*, 2 Vern. 763; *Galton v. Hancock*, 2 Atk. 436; *Selby v. Selby*, 4 Russ. 341. So covenantees, who claim under a merely voluntary covenant, have been held entitled, as against devisees, to stand in the place of mortgagees, who have exhausted the fund provided by the testator for the payment of debts. *Lomas v. Wright*, 2 My. & K. 769; *Hales v. Cox*, 32 Beav. 118. But the assets

shall not be marshalled against judgment creditors. *Sharpe v. Lord Scarborough*, 4 Ves. 538.

(*o*) *Aldrich v. Cooper*, 8 Ves. 381, overruling *Robinson v. Tonge*, 1 P. Wms. 679, note.

(*p*) *Gwynne v. Edwards*, 2 Russ. 289, *in notis*.

(*q*) The specialty creditors could not otherwise have reached the copyhold, for copyhold estates, previous to the passing of the stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104 (see *ante*, 1691), were not liable, either at law or equity to the testator's debts, further than he had subjected them thereto.

(*r*) *Selby v. Selby*, 4 Russ. 336.

(*s*) 1 Russ. & My. 185.

[1714] [1715]

John Leach M. R. appears to have considered that this principle of equity extends to the case of a specialty creditor, whose debt is also secured by a mortgage, so as to preclude him from proving under a decree in a creditor's suit for the full amount of his debt, but only for so much as the mortgaged estate will not extend to pay. In that case a mortgagee petitioned for the sale of his security, and to be permitted to prove the full amount of his debt, in a suit for the administration of the assets of the deceased mortgagor. But the learned judge held that the rule in bankruptcy must be applied, (*t*) and that the mortgagee, who had two funds, as against the other specialty creditors who had but one fund, must resort first to the mortgage security, and could claim against the common fund only what the mortgaged estate was deficient to pay. However, in *Mason v. Bogg*, (*u*) Lord Cottenham appeared to doubt the propriety of this decision. And his lordship observed, that as a mortgagee has a double security, he has a right to proceed against both, and to make the best he can of both; and that it is not easy to see why he should be deprived of this right, because the debtor dies, and dies insolvent. (*v*)

\* A similar equity will be extended in favor of legatees. Thus, where a specialty creditor, who has a general lien on the real estate, as a creditor by bond in which the deceased bound himself and his heirs, receives satisfaction out of the per-

(*t*) In bankruptcy, if a creditor of a bankrupt holds security on part of the bankrupt's estate, he is not entitled to prove his debt under the commission, without giving up or realizing his security. See 1 Phill. C. C. 56, *In re Plummer*. See, also, 32 & 33 Vict. c. 71, s. 40.

(*u*) 2 My. & Cr. 443.

(*v*) See, also, *Davis v. Dowding*, 2 Keen, 245; *Tipping v. Power*, 1 Hare, 410; *Brocklehurst v. Jessop*, 7 Sim. 438; *King v. Smith*, 2 Hare, 239; *Greenwood v. Firth*, 2 Hare, 241, note; *Aldridge v. Westbrook*, 5 Beav. 193; *Bonser v. Cox*, 6 Beav. 84; *Marshall v. M'Aravey*, 3 Dr. & W. 232; *Cockrell v. Dickens*, 3 Moore Priv. C. 98; *Lockhart v. Hardy*, 9 Beav. 349. In *Rome v. Young*, 3 Y. & Coll. 199, a vendor of an estate had obtained a decree for specific performance, with a declaration that, if the purchase-money was

not paid by a given day, the estate should be sold, the proceeds paid to the vendor, and the purchaser be made personally liable in the event of any deficiency. The master fixed the day of payment, but the purchaser died before that day insolvent, and a creditor's suit was instituted for the administration of his assets. Upon a bill of revivor and supplement filed by the vendor, praying to have the benefit of the creditor's suit as well as his own, Lord Abinger held that he was not entitled to prove against the general assets of the testator, and at the same time to reserve his lien on the estate contracted to be sold, in case of a deficiency in the general assets. And his lordship added that, although he agreed with what Lord Cottenham said in *Mason v. Bogg*, he did not see how it applied to the present case. See, also, S. C. 4 Y. & Coll. 204, accord.

sonal estate, and thereby exhausts it so as to leave nothing for the payment of legacies, a legatee shall stand in the place of such specialty creditor as against the real assets which have *descended* to the heir. (w) "In the case of legatees," said Lord Eldon, in *Aldrich v. Cooper*, (x) "against assets, descended, a legatee has not so strong a claim to this species of equity as a creditor; but the mere bounty of the testator enables the legatees to call for this species of marshalling; that if those creditors, having a right to go to the real estate descended, will go to the personal estate, the \* choice of the creditors shall not determine whether the legatees shall be paid or not."

And on the same principle it seems to be clear, that if, since the passing of the stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104, (y) by which the real estate is made liable to simple contract debts, a simple contract creditor should receive satisfaction out of the personal estate and thereby exhaust it, the legatees would be allowed to stand in his place against the real assets which have descended.

But where the real estate does not descend to the heir, but is *devised* to a stranger, or to the heir taking as devisee, (z) the assets are not marshalled in favor of general legatees, so as to

(w) *Bowaman v. Reeve*, Prec. Chanc. 578; *Lutkins v. Leigh*, Cas. temp. Talb. 54; *Hanby v. Roberts*, Ambl. 128; S. C. Dick. 105.

(x) 8 Ves. 396. Therefore, where the executor of a testator is a mortgagee of the real estate, as to which there was an intestacy, and also a legatee under his will, he is not bound to satisfy the mortgage debt out of the first sufficient sum of personal assets that comes to his hands, the reason being that if he were compelled to do so, and thus to exhaust the personal estate, he would be entitled to come against the real estate to the extent to which the legacy remained unsatisfied. *Binns v. Nicholls*, L. R. 2 Eq. 256.

(y) *Ante*, 1696.

(z) See the MSS. note of Serjeant Hill, in Blunt's edition of *Ambler*, 383, on the question whether a devise of land to the heir, which is void as to passing the estate, shall not exempt the lands from the legatees' right to stand in the place of specialty creditors. It has been held by

Sir L. Shadwell V. C. that since the stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 106 (*Act for the amendment of the law of inheritance*), wherever there is a devise to the heir, he must be considered, to all intents and purposes, as taking by devise and not by descent, for the third section of that statute (whereby it is provided that when any land shall have been devised by any testator, who shall die after December 31, 1833, to his heir, such heir shall be considered to have acquired the land as devisee and not by descent) is not to be considered as relating exclusively to the law of inheritance, but has also application with regard to assets. *Strickland v. Strickland*, 10 Sim. 374. And even in cases where the testator died before December 31, 1833, so as not to be within the operation of this act, the estates devised to the heir are not, in equity, to be applied to the payment of the testator's debts, in priority to other parts of his estate devised to other persons. *Bierderman v. Seymour*, 3 Beav. 368.



throw the creditors on the real assets *devised*. (a) And this rule is not confined to specific devises of land, but extends to lands which pass under a residuary devise. (b) If, indeed, the lands devised are *charged with \* debts*, the assets will be marshalled; for

(a) *Clifton v. Burt*, 1 P. Wms. 678; *Scott v. Scott*, Ambl. 383; S. C. 1 Eden, 458; *Hanby v. Fisher*, Dick. 105; S. C. Ambl. 128; *Keeling v. Brown*, 5 Ves. 359; *Aldrich v. Cooper*, 8 Ves. 397; [In *Farquharson v. Floyer*, 3 Ch. Div. 109, it was held that where there is a bequest of pecuniary legacies, and devises of real and residuary real estates, and an insufficient amount of personalty for the payment of debts, the pecuniary legacies must be first resorted to to make up the deficiency. The cases of *Collins v. Lewis*, L. R. 8 Eq. 708; *Dugdale v. Dugdale*, L. R. 14 Eq. 234; and *Tomkins v. Colthrust*, 1 Ch. Div. 626, were followed in the above decision, and the case of *Hensman v. Fryer*, L. R. 3 Ch. App. 420, cited in note (b) below, was not followed. A testator gave a specific, and several general legacies, and devised his farm, being all his real estate, to several of his children, and afterwards, by a general clause, made the same children residuary legatees and devisees; his personal property was not sufficient to pay his debts and the specific legacy; it was held that the general legatees must lose their legacies, and that the real estate, being specifically devised, could not be sold to pay them. *Humes v. Wood*, 8 Pick. 478; *Wallace v. Wallace*, 23 N. H. 155.]

(b) *Mirehouse v. Scaife*, 2 My. & Cr. 695. But if the cases are to be supported in which it has been held that a residuary devise, since the new wills act (1 Vict. c. 26) is not specific (see *ante*, 1696, note (c)), it should seem that in respect of wills made after that act came into operation, the law is altered, and general legatees are entitled to have the assets marshalled against residuary devisees. But see *Hensman v. Fryer*, L. R. 3 Ch. App. 420; and see *ante*, 1696, note (c). [It was decided in New Jersey, in the case of

*Corwine v. Corwine*, 9 C. E. Green, 579, that if legacies are given generally, and the residue of the real and personal estate is afterwards given in one mass, the legacies are a charge on the residuary real as well as personal estate. In this case it appeared that a testator, having first directed his debts to be paid, gave a money legacy to each of his two daughters, and a specific legacy of household goods to his said daughters and his son C., equally. His will then proceeded: "I give and bequeath to my son C. the entire residue of my estate, both real and personal, not otherwise disposed of, to him, his heirs and assigns." The personal estate being insufficient to pay the two pecuniary legacies alone, they were a charge on the testator's real estate. In accord with this decision are *Van Winkle v. Van Houten*, 2 Green Ch. 172; *Dey v. Dey*, 4 C. E. Green, 137; *Wilcox v. Wilcox*, 13 Allen, 252; *Blanney v. Blanney*, 1 Cush. 107; *Hays v. Jackson*, 6 Mass. 149; *Witman v. Norton*, 6 Binn. 395; *Gallagher's Appeal*, 48 Penn. St. 122; *Robinson v. McIver*, 63 N. Car. 649; *Johnson v. Farrell*, 64 N. Car. 268; *Moore v. Beckwith*, 14 Ohio St. 135; *Greville v. Browne*, 7 H. L. Cas. 689; *Wheeler v. Howell*, 3 Kay & J. 198; *Gyett v. Williams*, 2 Johns. & H. 429; *Hassell v. Hassell*, 2 Dick. 527; *Cole v. Turner*, 4 Russ. 376; *Francis v. Clemow*, Kay, 435; *Bench v. Biles*, 4 Madd. 187; *Adams v. Brackett*, 5 Met. 280, 282; *Lewis v. Darling*, 16 How. (U. S.) 10, 11, and cases cited. As to Connecticut, see *Gridley v. Andrews*, 8 Conn. 1. As to New York, see *Lupton v. Lupton*, 2 John. Ch. 614; *Myers v. Eddy*, 47 Barb. 264; *Church v. Wachter*, 42 Barb. 43; *Sutters v. Johnson*, 38 Barb. 80; *McLaughlin v. McLaughlin*, 30 Barb. 459. See *Laurens v. Read*, 14 Rich. Eq. 245.]

lands so charged are applicable to the payment of debts before general pecuniary legacies. (c)

With respect to specific legatees, the assets shall be so far marshalled against the specific devisees of real estate, upon failure of the general personal estate, that the devisee and specific legatee shall each, in proportion to their respective gifts, *contribute* to the payment of the specialty debt. (d)

It must, likewise, be observed, that if a creditor has a specific lien on the real estate, and resorts to the personal, the assets will be marshalled in favor of general legatees, as well against real assets devised as descended. Thus it is now fully settled, that if the real estate subject to a mortgage be devised, and the mortgagee exhaust the personal assets, a pecuniary legatee shall stand in the place of the mortgagee upon the devised estate. (e) It seems, therefore, \*that although, generally speaking (as there has

(c) *Foster v. Cook*, 3 Bro. C. C. 347; *Paterson v. Scott*, 2 De G., M. & G. 531; *Surtees v. Pakin*, 19 Beav. 406. The law on this subject is not affected by the stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104; *Rickard v. Barrett*, 3 Kay & J. 289.

(d) *Long v. Short*, 1 P. Wms. 403; *Tombs v. Roch*, 2 Coll. 490; *Gervis v. Gervis*, 14 Sim. 654; [*ante*, 1693, note (l); 1705, note (k); *Hubbell v. Hubbell*, 9 Pick. 561, *Hume v. Wood*, 8 Pick. 478, *ante*, 1717, note (a). In *Hayes v. Seaver*, 7 Greenl. 239, Parris J. said: "It is a familiar principle that specific legatees, although bound, under certain circumstances, to contribute towards the payment of debts, are not bound to contribute toward the payment of other legacies."'] But where a testator directed all his debts, in the first place, to be paid out of his personal estate, except his leaseholds, if sufficient, and if not, he charged his real estate therewith, it was held by Lord Langdale that the specific legacies were liable to the payment of the debts in priority of the real estate. *Bateman v. Hotchkins*, 10 Beav. 426. [By statute, in Massachusetts, when any estate, real or personal, that is devised, is taken from the devisee for the payment of the debts of the testator, all the other devisees and legatees must con-

tribute their respective proportions of the loss to the person from whom the estate is taken, so that the loss shall fall equally on all the devisees and legatees, according to the value of the property received by each, unless an express or implied exemption, or a different appropriation, is made by the will. Genl. Sta. c. 92, §§ 29, 30, 31, 32, 33.]

(e) *Lutkins v. Leigh*, Cas. temp. Talb. 54; *Forrester v. Leigh*, Ambl. 172; *Selby v. Selby*, 4 Russ. 341; *Wythe v. Henniker*, 2 My. & K. 635; *ante*, 1694, note (r); 15 Beav. 453, by Romilly M. R. But where a testator devised his E. estate, *subject to his debts*, to his wife for life, with remainders over, and devised his C. estate, *subject to his debts*, to his wife absolutely; and he afterwards mortgaged his E. estate, Romilly M. R. held that on a deficiency of the personal estate, the estates E. and C. ought to contribute ratably towards payment of the mortgage; for that the testator's intention was apparent that the real estate must bear the expense of paying all the debts, whether simple contract, or charged on any particular portion of the real estate. *Middleton v. Middleton*, 15 Beav. 450. [See *Gibson v. McCormick*, 10 Gill & J. 65; *Mason's Estate*, 1 Parsons Eq. 129.]

already been occasion to show), (*f*) a testator, by devising land expressly "subject to a mortgage," does not thereby declare any intention that the devisee shall take *cum onere*, as against the testator's personal estate, yet the court does discover such an intention if his personal estate be insufficient for the payment of his debts and legacies. (*g*)

Whether the law is the same with respect to an equitable lien, such as a vendor has upon the purchased estate for the purchase-money unpaid, is a question which has been much discussed. (*h*) It has already appeared that it has been decided in favor of a *creditor*, that simple contract creditors are entitled to stand in the place of the vendor against the devisees of the land subject to the equitable lien. And in *Selby v. Selby*, (*i*) Sir John Leach M. R. seemed to be of opinion that a pecuniary legatee had a right to the same benefit; and that no good reason could be assigned why, in this case alone, an exception is to be made to the equitable rule on which the marshalling of assets rests, that he who has power to resort to two funds shall not, by his election, altogether disappoint another person who has power to resort to one fund only. (*j*) But in the subsequent case of *Wythe v. Henniker*, (*k*) the same learned judge decided against the right of pecuniary legatees to stand in the place of the vendor upon the land *devised*, his honor at the same time expressing an opinion, that if the estate purchased had *descended* they would have been so entitled. And, accordingly, in the subsequent case of *Sproule v. Prior*, (*l*) where the purchased estate had *descended*, Sir L. Shadwell V. C., after reviewing all the previous cases, ordered the assets to be marshalled in favor of a pecuniary legatee. In the \*subsequent case of *Birds v. Askey*, (*m*) Romilly M. R. appears to have disregarded the decision in *Wythe v. Henniker*, and to have followed *Sproule v. Prior*, even in a case where the purchased estate had been *devised*. (*n*)

(*f*) *Ante*, 1694, note (*r*).

(*g*) 4 Hare, 94.

(*h*) See 2 Sugden V. & P. 67 *et seq.*, 9th ed.

(*i*) 4 Russ. 340.

(*j*) The principal cases on this point are *Pollexfen v. Moore*, 3 Atk. 272; *Coppin v. Coppin*, 2 P. Wms. 295; *Austen v. Halsey*, 6 Ves. 475; *Trimmer v. Bayne*, 9

Ves. 209; *Mackreth v. Symmons*, 15 Ves. 344; *Headley v. Redhead*, Cooper, 50.

(*k*) 2 My. & K. 635.

(*l*) 8 Sim. 189.

(*m*) 24 Beav. 618.

(*n*) See, also, *Lord Lilford v. Keck*, L. R. 1 Eq. 347; *Barnwell v. Iremonger*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 255.

Again, if a *leasehold* estate subject to a mortgage be specifically bequeathed, the specific legatee must take the legacy *cum onere*, if the testator's personal estate be insufficient for the payment of his debts and legacies; and consequently the pecuniary legatees are entitled to have the assets marshalled, and to stand in the place of the mortgagee as against the leasehold estate. (*o*)

Another instance of marshalling the assets in favor of legatees occurs where one or more legacies are charged on the real estate, and there is another legacy which is not so charged. There the legatee, whose legacy is not so charged, shall stand in the place of the former legatees, to be satisfied out of the real assets. (*p*)

It is clearly established that the court will not marshal assets in favor of a charitable bequest, so as to give it effect out of the personal assets, it being void so far as it touches any interest in land. (*q*)

(*o*) *Johnson v. Child*, 4 Hare, 87.

(*p*) *Bligh v. Lord Darnley*, 2 P. Wms. 620; *Bonner v. Bonner*, 13 Ves. 379; 2 My. & Cr. 700. [Though a legatee may elect, or may be compelled to resort to the personal estate, as the fund first liable to the payment of a legacy, yet the legatees of the personal estate, thus applied, will, in equity, be entitled to stand in the place of the legatees, whose legacies were charged on the land, as against the land itself. *Adams Eq.* 263, note; *Lockwood v. Stockholm*, 11 Paige, 87; *Cryder's Appeal*, 11 Penn. St. 72; *Bell C. J. in Perry v. Hale*, 44 N. H. 366, 367; *Paterson v. Scott*, 1 De G., M. & G. 531.] There is no distinction between the case of a class of legacies and a case of individual legacies, for the court presumes that the testator's intention in charging the land is that all the legacies shall be paid in full. *Scales v. Collins*, 9 Hare, 656.

VOL. III.

11

(*q*) *Mogg v. Hodges*, 2 Ves. sen. 52; S.

C. 1 Cox, 9; *Atty. Gen. v. Tyndall*, Ambl. 614; S. C. 2 Eden, 207; *Foster v. Blagden*, Ambl. 704; *Hillyard v. Taylor*, Ambl. 713; *Foy v. Foy*, 1 Cox, 163; *Ridges v. Morrison*, 1 Cox, 180; *Atty. Gen. v. Hurst*, 2 Cox, 364; *Makeham v. Hooper*, 4 Bro. C. C. 153; *Hobson v. Blackburn*, 1 Keen, 273; *Williams v. Kershaw*, Ib. 274, note; *Philanthropic Society v. Kemp*, 4 Beav. 581; *Sturge v. Dimsdale*, 6 Beav. 462. But see *Robinson v. Geldard*, 3 Mac. & G. 735; 3 De G. & Sm. 499, as to charitable bequests which may be regarded as demonstrative legacies. See, also, *Tempest v. Tempest*, 7 De G., M. & G. 473, per Lord Cranworth; *Beaumont v. Oliveira*, L. R. 4 Ch. App. 309, affirming the decision of *Stuart V. C.* in L. R. 6 Eq. Cas. 534.

## \* BOOK THE SECOND.

OF THE LIABILITY OF AN EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR, IN RESPECT OF THE ACTS OF THE DECEASED; AND OF THE LIABILITY OF AN EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR, IN RESPECT OF HIS OWN ACTS.

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### CHAPTER THE FIRST.

OF THE LIABILITY OF THE EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR IN RESPECT OF THE ACTS OF THE DECEASED.

#### SECTION I.]

*The General Question as to what Claims upon the Deceased survive against the Executor or Administrator.*

THE general rule has been established from very early times, <sup>In matters of contract:</sup> with respect to such personal claims as are founded upon any obligation, contract, debt, covenant, or other *duty* that the right of action, on which the testator or intestate might have been sued in his lifetime, survives his death, and is enforceable against his executor or administrator. (a) Therefore, it is clear that the executors or administrators are answerable, as far as they have assets, for debts of every description due from the deceased, either debts of record, as judgments, statutes, or recognizances; or debts due on special contract, as for rent or on bonds,

(a) Touchst. 482; 1 Saund. 216 a, note (1) to Wheatley v. Lane; [1 Chitty C. J. in Sollers v. Lawrence, Willes, 421, Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 58; 2 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 120, 121; Harrison v. Sampson, 2 Wash. 155; Lee v. Cooke, 1 Wash. 306; Holbrook v. White, 13 Wend. 591; ante, 785, note (c); University of Vermont & State Agricultural College v. Baxter's Es-

tate, 43 Vt. 645.] It was said by Willes that "actions on the case for all sorts of debts and duties are now daily brought against executors, though this was formerly doubted. But the law has been now so settled at least 150 years."

covenants, and the \* like, under seal ; or debts on simple contract, as notes unsealed, and promises not in writing, either expressed or implied. (*b*) So an executor may be sued by the lord of a manor for a relief due from the testator. (*c*)

In the case of *Eton College v. Beauchamp*, (*d*) there was a rent issuing out of lands, and the tertenant died, leaving arrears due to Eton College. And it was decreed that, though the person of the tertenant was not chargeable with the rent at law, but only the land by way of distress, yet his executor should pay the arrears as far as he had assets. So it is said, that where a man binds himself and his heirs, and leaves real assets, the heir, taking the profit, becomes so far a debtor, that his executor shall be charged. (*e*)

In the case of *Wilson v. Tucker*, (*f*) an action was sustained against the executor of an attorney for negligence by the deceased, in transacting the business of the plaintiff. (*f*<sup>1</sup>)

And there is no difference between a promise to pay a debt certain, and a promise to do a collateral act, which is uncertain, and rests only in damages, as a promise by the testator to give such a fortune with his daughter, to deliver up such a bond, &c. For, wherever in those cases the testator himself is liable to an action, his executors shall be liable also. (*g*)

It must be observed, however, that certain *forms* of action do not, at the common law, survive against the executor or administrator, as will hereafter be shown in the investigation of the subject of remedies generally. (*h*) But other \* actions were substituted in their room upon the very same cause, which do survive and lie against the executor or administrator. (*i*)

The executors or administrators so completely represent their testator or intestate, with respect to the liabilities above mentioned, that every bond, or covenant, or contract of the deceased

(*b*) Bac. Abr. Exors. P. 1 ; Com. Dig. 114 ; *ante*, 801, note (*P*) ; *post*, 1734, note Admon. B. 14. (*m*<sup>1</sup>).]

(*c*) *St. John v. Bawdripp*, Noy, 43 ; Com. Dig. Admon. B. 14.

(*d*) 1 Chanc. Cas. 21.

(*e*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 249, 256, 14th ed. ; Henningham's case, Dyer, 344 b.

(*f*) 3 Stark. N. P. C. 154 ; S. C. 1 Dow. & Ry. N. P. C. 30. See, also, Dutton v. Tayley, 18 Hill, MS. 285.

(*f*<sup>1</sup>) [Miller v. Wilson, 24 Penn. St.

(*g*) Bac. Abr. Exors. P. 2 ; Berisford v. Woodroff, Cro. Jac. 404 ; Clark v. Thomason, Cro. Jac. 571 ; Fawcett v. Carter, W. Jones, 16 ; S. C. Palm. 329 ; Cro. Jac. 662 ; Sanders v. Esterbie, 1 Roll. Rep. 266 ; S. C. Cro. Jac. 417.

(*h*) *Infra*, pt. v. bk. II. ch. 1.

(*i*) Hambly v. Trott, Cowp. 375, by Lord Mansfield.

includes them, although they are not named in the terms of it ; (*k*) for the executors or administrators of every person are implied in himself. (*l*)

In *Harwood v. Hilliard*, (*m*) a sale was to be made of a parcel of land, and it was agreed, between the plaintiffs and the defendant's testator, that if it should not produce a certain sum, then they should repay each other proportionably to the abatement ; and the defendant's testator covenanted for himself and his executors to pay his proportion to the plaintiffs, so as the plaintiffs gave him notice in writing of the said sale, by the space of ten days ; but it was not said that such notice was to be given to his executors or administrators. And the whole court agreed, that, as the covenant ran in interest and charge, the executor was bound to pay the testator's proportion, although the notice was given to the executor and not to the testator.

It is clear, also, that in many cases a liability may accrue against the executor or administrator, after the death of the testator or intestate, upon a contract made in his lifetime, although the executor or administrator be not named therein. Thus the executor is liable upon a bond which becomes due, or a note payable, subsequently to the death of the testator. (*n*) So where a man covenanted that A. should serve B. as an apprentice for seven years, and died, it was holden, that if A. departs within the term, a writ of covenant lies against the executor of the covenantor, without naming \*him. (*o*) So if A. is bound to build a house for B. before such a time, and A. dies before the time, his executors are bound to perform this contract. (*p*) And in cases of this kind

(*k*) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* c. 11, pp. 239, 243, 14th ed. ; *Bradbury v. Morgan*, 1 H. & C. 249, 255 ; [*Harrison v. Sampson*, 2 Wash. 155 ; *Lee v. Cooke*, 1 Wash. 306.]

(*l*) By Lord Macclesfield in *Hyde v. Skinner*, 2 P. Wms. 197.

(*m*) 2 Mod. 268.

(*n*) *Toller*, 463.

(*o*) *Bro. Covenant*, 12 ; *Bac. Abr. Exors.* P. 1.

(*p*) *Quick v. Ludborrow*, 3 Bulstr. 30, by Coke C. J. In the case of *Gordon v. Calvert*, 2 Sim. 253 ; 4 Russ. 581, A. on taking B. as a clerk, took a bond from him and a surety, to secure his duly ac-

counting for his receipts. No time was fixed for the continuance of the service, but it was to be determinable at the option of either party. The surety died. His executrix gave notice to A. that she should no longer consider herself liable on the bond. A. read the notice to B., and required him to execute a new bond, with another surety, which was done. Then B. died, and deficiencies were found in his accounts, subsequent to the notice. And it was held that the executrix of the surety had no equity to support an injunction to restrain an action on the bond.

the executors will be liable even where the heir is named, and the executors are not named, in the contract. (*q*)

Hence it appears that executors or administrators more actually represent their testator or intestate than the heir does the ancestor; for if a man binds himself, his executors or administrators are bound, though not named; but it is not so of the heir, however large an amount of real assets may have descended to him. (*r*)

The proposition, however, that executors or administrators are liable upon every contract of the deceased, although they be not named, must be understood as not extending to cases where the contract is *personal* to the testator or intestate; for in such instances no liability attaches upon the executors or administrators, unless a breach was incurred in the lifetime of the deceased. (*s*) Thus, if an author undertakes to compose a work, and dies before completing it, his executors are discharged from this contract; for the undertaking is merely personal in its \* nature, and, by the intervention of the contractor's death, has become impossible to be performed. (*t*) So a covenant by a master for the instruction of his apprentice is personal to the master, and his executors are not liable upon it. (*u*) Again, in *Cooke v. Colcroft*, (*x*) one William Cooke, the plaintiff's intestate, being a newsman, and entitled to receive every morning thirty copies of the Daily Advertiser, assigned his right to the same, and all other his business of a newsman, to the defendant, and covenanted, "that he the said William Cooke should not thereafter exercise the business of a newsman, but should use his utmost endeavors to procure for the said defendant his customers in the said business." And in consideration of the premises, the defendant covenanted to pay

(*q*) *Williams v. Burrell*, 1 C. B. 402.

(*r*) Co. Lit. 209 *a*; Wentw. Off. Ex. c. 11, pp. 239, 240, 14th ed.

(*s*) *Hyde v. The Dean of Windsor*, Cro. Eliz. 533. See the remark of Parke B. in *Siboni v. Kirkman*, 1 M. & W. 423; [*McGill v. McGill*, 2 Metc. (Ky.) 458; 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 58; 2 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 120; 2 Chitty Contr. (11th Am. ed.) 792, 1411; *Shuler v. Millsaps*, 71 N. Car. 297.]

(*t*) *Marshall v. Broadhurst*, 1 Tyrwh.

349, by Lord Lyndhurst. In *Wentworth v. Cock*, 10 Ad. & El. 45, Patteson J. said that there was a case at Liverpool, where a contract to build a lighthouse was held to be personal, on the ground of its being a matter of personal skill and science. *Robinson v. Davison*, L. R. 6 Ex. 269, 274.

(*u*) *Baxter v. Burfield*, Bott. P. L. pl. 696, 6th ed.; S. C. 2 Stra. 1266; *infra*, 1765.

(*x*) 2 W. Bl. 856; S. C. 3 Wils. 380.



eight shillings a week to the said William Cooke, his executors, administrators, and assigns, during the lives of the said William Cooke and Ann his wife, and the survivor of them. Cooke died, and his wife took out administration, and commenced the business of a newspaper vendor on her own account. The court held that the administratrix was not bound by the covenant, and grounded their judgment on the difference of expression in the two clauses, viz, that Cooke himself, without naming his executors, &c. should abstain from the business of a newsman, but that the payment was to be made to him, his executors, &c.; and that this was now payable to the plaintiff, not as wife, but as administratrix of William Cooke, and was assets for the payment of his debts. Besides, it would be very hard, they said, to bar her from exercising a lawful occupation for her own livelihood, \*in consequence of this personal covenant of her husband.

So it is said, that if a lessee for years covenants for himself to repair the houses demised, omitting other words, he is bound to repair only during his life, and the executors or administrators are not bound. (y) And it is also said, that if a lessor covenants, for himself only, to discharge the lessee of all quit-rents out of the land, this covenant is only personal, and will bind the covenantor only during his life. (z) But if in these cases the words "during the term" be added in the covenant, as on a covenant by a lessee for himself to repair the houses during the term, or on a covenant by a lessor for himself to discharge the lessee of all quit-rents during the term; in these cases, it appears, the executors and administrators also will be charged after his death. (a)

In *Wentworth v. Cock*, (b) the plaintiffs had entered into an agreement with one Cock to supply him with a certain quantity of slate immediately; and with a certain other quantity, monthly, at a fixed price; and with any further quantity, monthly, that he might require. He engaged to receive the slate, not exceeding 200 tons per month, and the agreement was to be in force till January 1st, 1838. An action having been brought against his administrator, for refusing to receive slate sent, in pursuance of

(y) Touchst. 178. But see *Wentw. Off.* (a) Touchst. 178, 482. See, also, *Williams v. Burrell*, 1 C. B. 402.

(z) Touchst. 178; *Ingery v. Hyde*, (b) 10 Ad. & El. 42; S. C. 2 Perr. & D. Dyer, 114 a. But see *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 251.  
*ubi supra.*

the contract, after his death, and before January 1st, 1838, it was contended that the contract was personal to the deceased, and was not obligatory on his representatives. But the court of queen's bench held that the plaintiff might well sue the administrator. And Lord Denman said it was like any ordinary case of goods ordered by a testator, which the executor must receive and pay for. (b<sup>1</sup>) And Littledale J. \* observed, that the administrator was bound to pay damages, out of the assets, if he did not take the contract upon himself. In *Cooper v. Jarman*, (c) where a person contracted with a builder to erect a house on a piece of freehold land belonging to him, and died intestate before the house was finished, it was held by Lord Romilly M. R. that the heir-at-law was entitled to have the house finished at the expense of the personal estate of the intestate.

But it must be borne in mind that the authority of an agent is revoked by the death of his principal; (c<sup>1</sup>) consequently the agent cannot, generally speaking, sue the executor of the principal in respect of services as agent after his death, though performed in pursuance of a contract made with him in his lifetime. Thus, in *Campanari v. Woodburn*, (d) where A. had agreed with B. that he would endeavor to sell a picture belonging to B., and that if he succeeded in selling the same, B. should pay him 100*l.*; and B. died before his picture was sold; it was held that A. could not recover the 100*l.* from B.'s executor. (d<sup>1</sup>)

It must here be observed, that in the case of *Perrot v. Aus-*

(b<sup>1</sup>) [See *Mactier v. Frith*, 6 Wend. 103. A lumber manufacturer agreed to sell all the lumber sawed at his mill during five years, and that the quantity should average a certain number of feet per year, without stipulating as to the quantity to be delivered in any one year, the same to be paid for as delivered. Both parties died before the five years expired. In a suit by the administrators of the vendor against the executor of the vendee, for lumber delivered by the former to the latter, under the contract, it was held that the original contract was merely personal, and was dissolved by the death of either party, and that the administrators were liable only for breaches committed in the lifetime of their intestate. *Dickenson v. Callahan*, 19 Penn. St. 227.]

(c) L. R. 3 Eq. Ca. 98.

(c<sup>1</sup>) [1 Chitty Contr. (11th Am. ed.) 278, and cases in note (a), 376; 2 Ib. 1412; *McKee v. Myers*, Addis. 31.]

(d) 15 C. B. 400.

(d<sup>1</sup>) [A contract made by a firm consisting of two partners, for the employment of an agent in their business for a term of years, was held to be discharged by the death of one of the partners before the expiration of the term. *Tasker v. Shepherd*, 6 H. & N. 575. As to the liability of executor or administrator for advances made on continuing guaranty of the testator or intestate, after his decease, see *Bradbury v. Morgan*, 1 H. & C. 249; *post*, 1770.]

tin, (e) it is said to have been resolved by the court that if one covenants that his executors shall pay 10*l.*, no action lies for this against them. (e<sup>1</sup>) But Lord Mansfield, in *Plumer v. Marchant*, (f) said that *Perrot v. Austin* was an extraordinary case, and there is a query in the very report. (g) \* And in *Powell v. Graham*, (h) it was held that an action might be sustained against an executor, upon a promise by the testator, that his executor should pay to the plaintiff the sum of 20*l.* in consideration that the plaintiff would continue in the service of the testator till his death; and that it was not necessary to aver any promise by the executor to pay it.

With regard to the liability of an executor in respect of the in matters of tort: tortious acts of the deceased, it was a principle of the common law, that if an injury was done either to the person or property of another, for which *damages* only could be recovered in satisfaction, the action died with the person by whom the wrong was committed; (i) and at this day (unless the case falls within the statute 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 2, hereafter to be mentioned), (j) where the cause of action is founded upon any *malfesance or misfeasance*, is a tort, or arises *ex delicto*, such as

(e) Cro. Eliz. 382.

(e<sup>1</sup>) [The intestate executed and delivered an instrument under seal, signed in the presence of two witnesses, in which, in consideration of love and goodwill to A. B. deceased, and of services by him performed in his lifetime, the intestate directed her administrator to pay to the widow of A. B. a specified sum of money; it was held that the widow could not maintain an action upon such instrument against the administrator. *Stone v. Gerish*, 1 Allen, 175. Merrick J. said: "The instrument signed by the defendant's intestate certainly is not a contract; it does not even purport to be so. She is the only party to it. It is a mere attempt to make a gift, after her decease, out of her estate, to a third person."]

(f) 3 Burr. 1383.

(g) In fact it appears from the statement of the case, in *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 250, 14th ed., that the decision of *Perrot v. Austin* was merely as to the form of action.

"In some cases," says that author, "no action of debt lieth upon a covenant to pay money; as if A. covenant that his executor shall within a year, or such a time after his death, pay 10*l.* to B.; now for that no action of debt was maintainable against A. himself, it lieth not against his executor, but only an action of covenant; as was held in the late queen's time." See *Randall v. Rigby*, 4 M. & W. 132, per Parke B.; and *Ex parte Tindal*, 8 Bing. 402; S. C. 1 M. & Scott, 607, where Tindal C. J. and Littledale J. expressed their opinion, in which Lord Brougham concurred, that if a man covenants that his executors shall pay a sum of money after his death, this creates a debt just as much as if he himself had covenanted to pay it.

(h) 7 Taunt. 580; S. C. 1 B. Moore, 305.

(i) 1 Saund. 216 a, note (1) to Wheatley v. Lane.

(j) *Post*, 1734.

trespass, (*j*<sup>1</sup>) for taking goods, &c. trover, (*j*<sup>2</sup>) false imprisonment, assault and battery, slander, (*j*<sup>3</sup>) deceit, (*j*<sup>4</sup>) diverting a water-course, obstructing lights, and in many other cases of the like kind, where the *declaration* imputes a tort done either to the person or property of another, and the *plea* must be not guilty, the rule is *actio personalis moritur cum persona*; and if the person by whom the injury was committed dies, no action of that kind can be brought against his executor or administrator. (*k*)

Accordingly, no action lies against an executor or administrator on a penal statute. (*l*) So if a man, served with a *subpœna*, and having had his expenses tendered to him, neglects to appear as a witness, and dies, no action lies against his executor or administrator. (*m*) Again, if a \*sheriff, jailer, or keeper of a prison, suffer one in execution for debt or damages to escape, though hereby the party, at whose suit the execution was, be entitled not only to an action upon the case against such officer by the common law, but also to an action of debt by the statutes Westm. 2, and 1 Rich. 2, c. 12; yet if the officer die, no action lies against his executor for the same; because the suffering the escape was a wrong of the nature of a trespass. (*n*) So at the common law, if a man was appointed executor, and committed a *devastavit* and

(*j*<sup>1</sup>) [Nicholson v. Elton, 13 Serg. & R. 415; Harris v. Creashaw, 4 Rand. 14; Perry v. Wilson, 7 Mass. 395.]

(*j*<sup>2</sup>) [Hench v. Metzger, 6 Serg. & R. 272; Jarvis v. Rogers, 15 Mass. 398; Barnard v. Harrington, 3 Mass. 288. Trover survives against an executor or administrator by statute in Alabama. Nations v. Hawkins, 11 Ala. 859. And so in Massachusetts and other states, actions survive for goods taken and carried away or converted by a party to his own use. See Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 127, § 1; post, 1734, note (*m*<sup>1</sup>); Terhune v. Bray, 16 N. J. (Law) 54; Cravath v. Plympton, 13 Mass. 454.]

(*j*<sup>3</sup>) [See Long v. Hitchcock, 3 Ham. 274; More v. Bennett, 65 Barb. 338.]

(*j*<sup>4</sup>) [See Boyles v. Overby, 11 Grattan, 202.]

(*k*) 1 Saund. 216 a, note (1). [As to replevin, see Mellen v. Baldwin, 4 Mass. 480; Merritt v. Lambert, 8 Greenl. 128; M'Evers v. Pitken, 1 Root, 216.]

(*l*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 255, 14th ed. [An action on the case will not lie against the executors of a deceased marshal for a false return made by him on an execution, or for imperfect and insufficient entries made therein. United States v. Daniel, 6 How. (U. S.) 11. See People v. Gibbs, 9 Wend. 29. Causes of actions arising from mere tort, such as the default of a postmaster, in his clerks embezzling money from letters, do not survive. See Franklin v. Low, 1 John. 396.]

(*m*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 255, 14th ed.

(*n*) Anon. Dyer, 271 a; Whitacres v. Onsley, Dyer, 322 a; Perkinson v. Gilford, Cro. Car. 540; Bro. Escape, 28; Exors. 100; Execution, 86, Parliament, 80; Wentw. Off. Ex. 254, 14th ed.; Berwick v. Andrews, Ld. Raym. 973, by Lord Holt; Hambly v. Trott, 1 Cowp. 375; 1 Saund. 216 a, note (1). But debt lies against the executors of a sheriff, &c. upon a judgment obtained against the testator for an escape. See post, 1740.

died, the executor of such executor was not liable for the *devastavit*, upon the principle that it was a personal tort in his testator, which died with the person. (*o*) But now, by the statute 30 Car. 2, c. 7, explained and made perpetual by 4 & 5 W. & M. c. 34, s. 12, the executors or administrators of any executor or administrator, whether rightful or of his own wrong, who shall waste or convert to his own use the estate of his testator or intestate, shall be liable and chargeable in the same manner as their testator or intestate would have been if they had been living. (*p*)

In some, however, of the cases above mentioned, a remedy may be had against the executor or administrator in another \* form. Thus, although, at the common law, an action of trover upon a conversion of the testator dies with him, yet if the goods, &c. taken away, continue still *in specie*, in the hands of the executor or administrator of the wrong-doer, replevin or detinue will lie against such executor or administrator to recover them back; (*q*) or trover, laying the conversion to have been by the executor; (*r*) or, in case they are sold, an action for money had and received to recover their value. (*s*) Again, an action on the custom of the realm against a common carrier is for a tort and supposed crime; and the plea is not guilty; therefore, at the common law, it will not lie against the carrier's executors. But an action of assumpsit will lie against them, upon the very same cause. (*t*) So if a man take a horse of another, and bring him back again, an action of trespass will not lie, at the common law, against his executor, though it would against him; but an action for the use and hire

(*o*) Sir Brian Tucke's case, 3 Leon. 241; Browne v. Collins, 1 Ventr. 292. But he was liable in equity. Price v. Morgan, 2 Chanc. Cas. 217.

(*p*) 1 Saund. 219 *d*, note to Wheatley v. Lane; Coward v. Gregory, L. R. 2 C. P. 153. In the case of Hammond v. Gatliffe, Andr. 254, the court were strongly inclined to be of opinion that an executor *de son tort* of an executor *de son tort* is not liable at common law for a *devastavit* committed by the first; and that such an executor is not within the statute of Car. 2, because (as Probyn J. said) in the first part of the act, executors *de son tort* are not named, though afterwards they are expressly mentioned.

(*q*) Le Mason v. Dixon, W. Jones, 173, 174; 1 Saund. 217, note (1); [Newsom v. Newsom, 1 Leigh, 86.]

(*r*) 1 Cowp. 373. [See Allen v. Harlan, 6 Leigh, 42; Catlett v. Russell, 6 Leigh, 344; Walter v. Miller, 1 Harr. (Del.) 7; Underhill v. Morgan, 33 Conn. 105; Denny v. Booker, 2 Bibb, 427; Thompson v. White, 45 Maine, 445; Clapp v. Walters, 2 Texas, 130.]

(*s*) 1 Cowp. 377; 1 Saund. 217, note (1); [United States v. Daniel, 6 How. (U. S.) 11; Cravath v. Plympton, 13 Mass. 454; Wilbur v. Gilmore, 21 Pick. 250.]

(*t*) Cowp. 375, by Lord Mansfield; S. P. by Sir J. Mansfield C. J. in Powell v. Layton, 2 New Rep. 370.

of the horse will lie against the executor. (u) So if a man deals as agent for another without authority, his executor, though he cannot be sued for the tort, may be made liable upon an implied contract. (v)

So in the case of *Perkinson v. Gilford*, (x) debt was brought against the executors of a sheriff, for money which he had levied under a *fi. fa.* and had not paid over; the not paying over the money was a misfeasance as well as a nonfeasance, yet it was determined, that by the receipt of \* the money, the sheriff became debtor, and that debt might be maintained for it; that is to say, though he was guilty of a breach of his duty as sheriff, and though no action could be maintained for that breach of duty after his death, yet for the money so recovered his executors were chargeable. (x<sup>1</sup>)

Again, at the common law, an action of trespass for mesne profits cannot be maintained against an executor or administrator; (y) yet he is, perhaps, liable in an action for use and occupation for the rent up to the day of the demise in the action of ejectment. (z) But if there has been a recovery in ejectment, it is clear that no action will lie against the executor for use and occupation for the rent subsequent to the day of demise laid in the declaration; because, having treated the holding as founded in trespass, the plaintiff cannot afterwards treat it as founded on contract. (a) And in such instances the simple case of the death

(u) *Cowp.* 375, by Lord Mansfield.

(v) *Collen v. Wright*, 7 El. & Bl. 301; S. C. in error, 8 El. & Bl. 647. So, though the executor of an innkeeper cannot be sued in tort for the loss of a guest's goods (unless under stat. 3 & 4 W. c. 42, s. 2, *post*, 1734), he may be sued on an implied assumpsit. *Morgan v. Rarey*, 2 Fost. & F. 283.

(x) *Cro. Car.* 539; S. C. *W. Jones*, 430; *Adair v. Shaw*, 1 Sch. & Lef. 265. See, also, *Packington v. Culliford*, 1 Roll. Abr. 921, tit. Exors. H. pl. 2.

(x<sup>1</sup>) [But not in debt for an escape in the lifetime of their testator, the action being founded on tort. *Martin v. Bradley*, 1 Caines, 124.]

(y) *Pulteney v. Warren*, 6 Ves. 86; [*Harker v. Whitaker*, 5 Watts, 474; *Bard v. Nevin*, 9 Watts, 328. But see *Molton*

*v. Mumford*, 3 Hawks, 490; and *Haldane v. Duche*, 2 Dallas, 176, where it was held that assumpsit will lie against executors to recover the *mesne* profits of an estate of which the testator had wrongfully possessed himself.]

(z) 6 Ves. 86; *Turner v. Cameron's Coalbrook Company*, 5 Ex. 932.

(a) *Birch v. Wright*, 1 T. R. 378. See, also, 6 Ves. 87; and *Bridges v. Smyth*, 5 Bing. 410; S. C. 2 Moo. & P. 740. However, the mere *bringing* of an ejectment and laying the demise before the time of the rent accruing, is no bar to an action for use and occupation. *Cobb v. Carpenter*, 2 Campb. 14, note to *Balls v. Westwood*. *Secus, semble*, if the ejectment has been served on the lessee. *Jones v. Carter*, 15 M. & W. 718.

of the occupier will not sustain a bill in equity for an account of mesne profits under the head of accident. (b) However, in *Pulteney v. Warren*, (c) an account of mesne profits, since the title accrued, was decreed against executors, upon the special ground, that the plaintiff was prevented from recovering in ejectment by a rule of the court of law, and by an injunction at the instance of the occupier; who ultimately failed both at law and in equity. And in a modern case, (d) the widow of a testator, with the acquiescence of his heir, \* was let into possession of certain freehold houses, under an erroneous supposition that they passed by the will along with other property, in which a life interest was devised to her; and before the error was discovered or her right disputed, she died. On a bill filed by the heir against her personal representative, praying the delivery of title deeds and an account, it was held by Sir J. Leach M. R., and afterwards by Lord Brougham on appeal, that the suit was maintainable for the rents received during her continuance in possession. (d<sup>1</sup>)

So an action of waste does not lie, at the common law, against an executor, for waste committed by his testator; it being a tort which dies with the person. (e) Nor shall an executor be chargeable for the injury done by his testator in cutting down another man's trees. But for the benefit arising to his testator from the sale or value of the trees, he shall. (f) Accordingly, in *Powell v. Rees*, (g) it was held that an executor is liable to an action for money had and received by his testator, for coal tortiously taken by him from the plaintiff's land, if the testator had sold it, and received the money. (g<sup>1</sup>) And this, although no direct evi-

(b) *Pulteney v. Warren*, 6 Ves. 88.

(c) 6 Ves. 72.

(d) *Monypenny v. Bristow*, 2 Russ. & My. 117.

(d<sup>1</sup>) See, also, *Caton v. Coles*, L. R. 1 Eq. 581.

(e) 2 Inst. 302; 2 Roll. Abr. 828, pl. 7; 2 Saund. 252, note to *Green v. Cole*. A bill was brought against the executors of a jointress, to have satisfaction out of assets for permissive waste upon the jointure of the testatrix. But by Cowper C., "The bill must be dismissed; for here is no covenant that the jointress shall keep the jointure in good repair, and in the common case, without some particular cir-

cumstances, there is not remedy in law or equity for permissive waste after the death of the particular tenant." *Turner v. Buck*, 22 Vin. Abr. 523, pl. 9, tit. Waste (s. a.).

(f) Cowp. 376, by Lord Mansfield.

(g) 7 Ad. & El. 426; S. C. 2 Nev. & P. 571.

(g<sup>1</sup>) [There are many cases where a party has been held entitled to waive the tort done in the conversion by sale of his property, and to sue in an action for money had and received. See 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 112, and note (s) and cases cited; *Morton J. in Wilbur v. Gilmore*, 21 Pick. 250, 252; *Mellen v. Baldwin*, 4 Mass. 450;

dence be given of the actual sum received on the sale, if the jury believe the fact of the sale. So Lord Chancellor Cowper held, in the case of *The Bishop of Winchester v. Knight*, (*h*) that the lord of a manor might bring a bill for an account of ore \* dug, or timber cut by the defendant's testator. And his lordship observed, that it would be a reproach to equity to say, where a man has taken my property, as my ore or timber, and disposed of it in his lifetime, and dies, that in this case I must be without remedy. And his lordship further remarked that it was true, as to the trespass of breaking up meadow, or ancient pasture ground, it died with the person; but as to the property of the ore or timber, it would be clear, even at law, if it came to the executor's hands, that trover would lie for it; and if it had been disposed of in the testator's lifetime, the executor, if assets are left, ought to answer for it. So if a man commits equitable waste, and dies, as where tenant for life without impeachment of waste, and as such having a right at law to cut timber on the estate, and a property in the trees, abuses that power, by cutting ornamental trees, or trees not ripe for cutting, a court of equity has jurisdiction to make the personal representatives of the party, who has committed such waste, accountable for the produce of it. (*i*) But a court of equity will not direct an account, against the executor or administrator of tenant for life without impeachment of waste, of dilapidations permitted by him in and about the mansion-house. (*j*)

Again, an action would not lie against the executor of a parishioner, by whom tithes were subtracted, to recover the treble value under the statute of Edward the Sixth, even although the testator were a lessee for years so that his estate came to his executor; for, being founded on a personal tort, it died with the person. (*k*) But the executor would have been liable in another form of proceeding; for the tithes, when severed, belonged to the tithe-owner;

*Cravath v. Plympton*, 13 Mass. 454; (*i*) *Lansdowne v. Lansdowne*, 1 Madd. 116.

*Holmes v. Moore*, 5 Pick. 257; *Towle v. Lovet*, 6 Mass. 394. In this action the plaintiff waives all torts and special damages, and recovers only for the money received. (*j*) *Lansdowne v. Lansdowne*, 1 Jac. & W. 522.

*Hanna v. Pegg*, 1 Blackf. 181; (*k*) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 254, 14th ed.; *Holl v. Bradford*, 1 Sid. 88; *Weekes v. Trussell*, 1 Sid. 181; *Moreton v. Hopkins*, 2 Keb. 502; *Com. Dig. Admon. B.* 15.

(*h*) 1 P. Wms. 406. See *Powell v. Aiken*, 4 Kay & J. 352, per Wood V. C.



and the case, therefore, fell within the principle that where property is \*acquired which benefits the testator, an action for the value of the property shall survive against the executor. (l)

It may here be mentioned that the personal representative of the mother of a bastard child is not liable for necessities supplied to the child after her death. (m)

And now by stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 2, after reciting that  
 3 & 4 W. there is no remedy provided by law for certain wrongs  
 4, c. 42: done by a person deceased in his lifetime to another, in  
 respect of his property, real or personal; for remedy thereof it is  
 actions enacted, "that an action of trespass, or trespass on the  
 may be brought case, as the case may be, may be maintained against the  
 against executors or administrators of any person deceased for  
 for an injury to any wrong committed by him in his lifetime to another  
 property, in respect of his property, real or personal, so as such  
 real or personal, by injury shall have been committed within six calendar  
 the testator, committed months before such person's death, and so as such action  
 six months before his death: shall be brought within six calendar months after such  
 within what time to be brought. executors or administrators shall have taken upon themselves the administration of the estate and effects of such  
 person; and the damages to be recovered in such action  
 shall be payable in like order of administration as the  
 simple contract debts of such person." (m<sup>1</sup>)

(l) By Lord Eldon in *Pulteney v. Warren*, 6 Ves. 89, 90.

(m) *Ruttinger v. Temple*, 4 B. & S. 491.

(m<sup>1</sup>) [*Ante*, 796, and note (a<sup>1</sup>), 797. It is provided, in Massachusetts, by statute, that in addition to the actions which survive by the common law, the following shall also survive: actions of replevin; of tort for assault, battery, imprisonment, or other damage to the person; for goods taken and carried away or converted by the defendant to his own use; or for damage done to real or personal estate; and actions against sheriffs for malfeasance or nonfeasance of themselves or their deputies. Genl. Sts. c. 127, § 1. "The words 'damage to the person,' in this statute, do not; indeed, extend to torts not directly affecting the person but only the feelings or reputation, such as breach of promise,

slander, or malicious prosecution. *Smith v. Sherman*, 4 Cush. 408; *Nettleton v. Dinehart*, 5 Cush. 543. But they do include every action, the substantial cause of which is a bodily injury, or, in the words of Chief Justice Shaw in 4 Cush. 413, 'damage of a physical character,' whether the connection between the cause and the effect is so close as to support an action of trespass, or so indirect as to require an action on the case at common law. *Hollenbeck v. Berkshire R. R. Co.* 9 Cush. 478; *Demond v. Boston*, 7 Gray, 544." Gray J. in *Norton v. Sewall*, 106 Mass. 143, 145. See *Cutting v. Tower*, 14 Gray, 183; *Aldrich v. Howard*, 8 R. I. 125. In Iowa, "No cause of action, *ex delicto*, dies with either or both the parties, but the prosecution thereof may be commenced or continued by or against their personal representatives." *Laws of*

It was held in the case of *Powell v. Rees*, (*n*) where coal had been tortiously taken from the plaintiff's land by an intestate, who had sold it and received the money, and part had been raised more than six months before his death, and part within six months, that the plaintiff might bring trespass, under this statute, against the administrator, for so much as was raised within the six months, and also money had and received for so much as was raised before; (*o*) the acts being distinct, and therefore the two actions not incompatible.

In *Richmond v. Nicholson*, (*p*) which was an action of \*trover for a watch against the defendant, as the executor of one Harriet Reeves, the declaration stated that Harriet Reeves died on the 27th March, 1839, and alleged a conversion by her within six calendar months next before her decease. The defendant pleaded, that Harriet Reeves was not guilty within six calendar months before the time of her death. It appeared on the trial that the watch had been given by Harriet Reeves to one Spencer, in September, 1837; that Spencer redelivered it to her in March, 1838, for the purpose of its being pawned by her; that, on its being de-

Iowa, Revis. of 1860, c. 138, § 3467; for breach of promise of marriage, see 2 *Shafer v. Grimes*, 23 Iowa, 550. Statutes very much enlarging the number of causes of action, which survive, have been passed in many other of the American States, and to these the reader is referred. *Heinmuller v. Gray*, 44 How. Pr. 260; *Arundel v. Springer*, 71 Penn. St. 398; *Aldrich v. Howard*, 8 R. I. 125; *Prescott v. Knowles*, 62 Maine, 277; *McKinlay v. McGregor*, 10 Iowa, 111; *Froust v. Burton*, 15 Miss. 619; *Snider v. Cray*, 2 John. 227. In New York, by statute, and in North Carolina, actions for deceit in the sale of real or personal estate survive against the personal representatives of the defendant. *Haight v. Hoyt*, 19 N. Y. 464; *Arnold v. Lanier*, 4 Law Rep. (N. Car.) 529. See 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 77 note (*b*<sup>2</sup>); *Troup v. Smith*, 20 John. 43. An action against a physician for malpractice survives by statute in Indiana, though not at common law. *Long v. Morrison*, 14 Ind. 595. So an action against an attorney for neglect survives his decease. *Miller v. Wilson*, 24 Penn. St. 114. As to actions

for breach of promise of marriage, see 2 Chitty Contr. (11th Am. ed.) 1443; *ante*, 800, note (*l*); 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 58 note (*k*). An action for libel does not survive the death of the defendant. *More v. Bennett*, 65 Barb. 338; *Waters v. Nettleton*, 5 Cush. 544; *Long v. Hitchcock*, 3 Ohio, 274; *Browner v. Sterdevant*, 9 Geo. 69. Whenever an action might have been revived against an executor or administrator, it may be brought against him. *Butner v. Keelbn*, 6 Jones (Law), 60. In an action of tort against the executor or administrator of the person originally liable, the plaintiff is entitled to recover only for the value of the goods taken, or for the damage actually sustained, without any vindictive or exemplary damages, or damages for any alleged outrage to the feelings of the injured party. Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 128, § 2.]

(*n*) 7 Ad. & El. 426; S. C. 2 Nev. & M. 571, *ante*, 1732.

(*o*) *Ante*, 1732, and note (*g*<sup>1</sup>).

(*p*) 8 Scott, 134.

manded by the plaintiff in December, 1838, Harriet Reeves said, "I shall not talk to you any more, but shall see my solicitor." She died in March, 1839. And the court of common pleas held that this was sufficient evidence of a conversion within six months before her death.

In conclusion of this branch of the subject, it may be mentioned, that an action on the case lies, by the custom of England, as it is sometimes expressed, but to speak more correctly, by the common law, against the executors of a parson, vicar, or other ecclesiastical person, at the suit of his successor, for dilapidations of the houses or buildings upon his spiritual benefice. (*q*) So an action for dilapidations of a prebendal house may be maintained by a succeeding prebendary against the executor of his predecessor. (*r*) The law is the same as to a perpetual curate. (*s*) And such an action is maintainable where the hedges and fences belonging to the glebe are left in a state of decay, or where there has been a felling of timber growing thereon, otherwise than for repairs or fuel. (*t*) But it will not lie in respect of pulling \*down a building on the rectory and substituting another in a different part, unless the value of the estate be impaired, the burdens on it increased, or the evidence of title impaired. (*u*) Moreover, neglect to cultivate the glebe land in a husbandlike manner is not a dilapidation for which the executors of an incumbent are liable. (*v*) Nor will an action lie for digging gravel in the glebe. (*x*) Formerly, indeed, it was doubted whether any action at law, or elsewhere than in the spiritual court, would lie for dilapidations, even by a succeeding rector, &c. against his predecessor who had vacated by cession or otherwise; (*y*) but that point was determined in *Jones v. Hill*, 2 W. & M. (*z*) And the temporal courts having

(*q*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 255, 14th ed. And by stat. 13 Eliz. c. 10, s. 2, if any spiritual person fraudulently grants away his goods, &c. so as nothing be left to his executors, such grantee shall be liable to the successor's suit in any court ecclesiastical, as he might have been, if the grantee was executor of the grantor.

(*r*) *Radcliffe v. D'Oyly*, 2 T. R. 630, 637.

(\*) *Mason v. Lambert*, 12 Q. B. 795.

(*t*) 4 B. & Ad. 830.

(*u*) *Huntly v. Russell*, 13 Q. B. 572. See, further, S. C. as to what are acts of waste, for which this action lies.

(*v*) *Bird v. Ralph*, 4 B. & Ad. 826; S. C. 1 Nev. & M. 415.

(*x*) *Ross v. Adcock*, L. R. 3 C. P. 655.

(*y*) See the observation of Buller J. 2 T. R. 637. It is said in Wentw. Off. Ex. 255, 14th ed., that the executors are liable, by the spiritual or ecclesiastical law.

(*z*) 3 Lev. 268.

once taken cognizance of such matters, it should seem that the action was considered to lie against the executors of a deceased rector, &c. from the necessity of the thing; and it is at this day of common occurrence. (a) If the successor dies, without having enforced the right of action, it survives to his executor, who being himself liable to the third incumbent for the whole of the dilapidations existing at the death of his own testator, may recover from the executor of the first incumbent for so much of them as occurred during the first incumbency. (b)

The reason for the liability of the executor or administrator for such dilapidations was thus stated by Lord Chief Justice Willes, in *Sollers v. Lawrence*: (c) "Because it is not considered as a tort in the testator, but as a duty which he ought to have performed; and therefore his representatives, so far as he left assets, shall be equally liable as himself. \* And, for this reason, it is not contrary to the rule, that *actio personalis* (which is always understood of a tort) *moritur cum personâ*." It is observable, however, that this action is in form an action on the case in tort; and that it could not possibly be framed in *assumpsit*, as on a contract; for the plaintiff must be the succeeding rector, &c. who cannot be known until after the death of the predecessor, and of course could not contract with him. It is clearly an exception to the general rule that no action will lie against an executor to which his testator was not liable, for the testator never can be liable, inasmuch as during his life there is no person who can sue. For the same reason this action, however anomalous in other respects, is not contrary to the rule, that *actio personalis moritur cum personâ*; an action cannot be said to die, which never had nor could have had existence. It seems, therefore, not to be quite correctly stated, that "the executor shall be equally liable as the testator."

An allotment made to a vicar in lieu of tithes, under an inclosure act, is subject to the law and custom of England, as to dilapidations, equally with the ancient glebe; and if, when he comes into it, there are fences upon it which he ought to repair, but he dies leaving them unrepaired, his executors are liable at the suit of his successor. (d) In *Bird v. Relph*, (e) by an inclosure act,

(a) See the judgment of Buller J. in *Radcliffe v. D'Oyly*, 2 T. R. 637.

(b) *Bunbury v. Hewson*, 3 Ex. 558.

(c) Willes, 421.

(d) 2 Ad. & El. 773; 1 Nev. & M. 415.

(e) 2 Ad. & El. 773; S. C. 1 Nev. & M.

415.

land was to be allotted to a vicar in lieu of tithes, and was to be first well and sufficiently fenced, in such manner as the commissioners should direct, at the public charge, but forever afterwards to be repaired by the vicar and his successors. An appeal, to be brought within four months, was given to parties aggrieved by anything done in pursuance of the act. The land was allotted and fenced by the commissioners; but the fences being only calculated to last three or four years, became ruinous, and remained so till the incumbent died, about eleven years after the inclosure. No step had been taken to obtain a remedy for the neglect to fence properly. And the \* court of king's bench held that the commissioners, by making the fences according to their discretion, had, *prima facie*, fulfilled the condition precedent to the vicar's liability to repair; that if the work was improperly done, steps should have been taken at the time to enforce a due performance of it; and that the executrix of the late vicar was liable to his successor for the dilapidation of the fences.

It may be convenient to investigate, in this place, the extent to which the executor or administrator of a rector, &c. is liable for dilapidations. In *Percival v. Cooke*, (f) Best C. J. expressed an opinion at *nisi prius*, that the representatives of a prior incumbent are only liable for such repairs as an outgoing tenant would be bound to perform, and not for complete and finished repairs. (g) In *Wise v. Metcalfe*, (h) the subject was fully considered by the court of king's bench; and the judges of that court were of opinion that the incumbent is bound to maintain the parsonage (which must be assumed to be suitable in point of size, and other respects, to the benefice) and also the chancel, and to keep them in good and substantial repair, restoring and rebuilding, when necessary, according to the original form, without addition or modern improvement; (i) and that he is not bound to supply or maintain anything in the nature of ornament, to which painting (unless necessary to

(f) 2 C. & P. 460.

the glebe. *Bunbury v. Hewson*, 3 Ex. 558.

(g) And his lordship in that case expressed his further opinion, that the executors were entitled to be allowed, in such estimate, for timber which the late incumbent might have cut and used in such repairs, and which his successor had used for that purpose. See, also, accord. as to stone and timber, which could be got from

(h) 10 B. & C. 299; S. C. 5 Man. & Ry. 235.

(i) In *North v. Baker*, 3 Phillim. 309, Sir John Nicholl intimates that, in some cases, the thorough repair of old building is not all to fall on one incumbent. As to when the incumbent may remove hot-houses, see *Martin v. Roe*, 7 El. & Bl. 237.

preserve exposed timbers from decay) and whitewashing and papering belong. And that on this principle the damages must be \*calculated in an action for dilapidations against the executor or administrator of a deceased rector by the successor.

The successor may have separate actions against the executor or administrator of the late rector, for dilapidations to different parts of the rectory. (*k*)

It has been the constant habit of courts of equity to charge persons in the character of trustees with the consequence of a breach of trust, and to charge their representatives also; whether they derive benefit from the breach of trust or not. (*l*)

Liability of executor for breaches of trust by testator.

It may here be observed, that if an action is brought against an administrator for a breach of a covenant made by the deceased, it cannot be pleaded in bar that the defendant took out administration at the request of the plaintiff, and on his promise, *not under seal*, that he would not charge, or seek to charge, the defendant as administrator or otherwise with any breaches of the covenant in question. (*m*)

It is no bar to an action against an administrator on a covenant made by the deceased that the defendant took out administration on a parol promise of the plaintiff that he would not sue.

## SECTION II.

### *Of Particular Instances where the Executor or Administrator is Liable with Respect to the Acts of the Deceased.*

In the preceding section it has been attempted to collect the principal cases illustrative of the general principle as to the liability of executors and administrators with respect to claims which might be enforced against the deceased himself, if he were living. It remains to advert to some particular instances in which such liability has been established.

\* First, as to debts of record. The executor or administrator is bound, as far as he has assets, to satisfy

Debts of record:

(*k*) *Young v. Munby*, 4 M. & Sel. 183.

(*m*) *Harris v. Goodwyn*, 2 M. & Gr.

(*l*) *Adair v. Shaw*, 1 Sch. & Lef. 272; 405. Perhaps the defendant might have been relieved by application to the court to restrain the action. Per *Tindal C. J.* *Montford v. Cadogan*, 17 Ves. 489; *Watham v. Stainton*, 1 De G., J. & S. 678; 1 *Hemm. & M.* 322; [*Brownlee v. Lockhart*, 2 M. & Gr. 418. 20 N. J. Eq. 239.]

[1739] [1740]

all judgments recovered against the testator or intestate, without regard to the circumstance whether a judgment was founded on a cause of action which would not have survived his death. Thus, although the executor of a sheriff is not liable to be sued for an escape permitted by his testator, (*n*) yet, if judgment was recovered for such escape against him in his lifetime, his executor is liable upon the judgment. (*o*)

An executor or administrator is also liable upon all statutes and recognizances entered into by the deceased ; (*p*) and upon all the inferior debts of record of the deceased, as fines imposed by the justices at Westminster, or at assizes, or quarter sessions, or by commissioners of sewers or of bankrupts, by stewards in leets, or the like. (*q*)

In the case of a joint contract, where several contract on the same part, if one of the parties die, his executor or administrator is at law discharged from all liability, and the survivor or survivors alone can be sued. (*r*) And if all the parties are dead, the executor of the survivor is

liability of  
executor  
on joint  
contracts  
of testa-  
tor:

(*n*) See *ante*, 1729.

(*o*) *Whitacres v. Onaley*, Dyer, 322 *a*, *b*.

(*p*) It seems to have been once doubted whether the executor of the consor of a statute merchant was liable. See *Wentw. Off. Ex. c. 11*, p. 243, 14th ed.

(*q*) *Wentw. Off. Ex. c. 11*, p. 240. But see *Anon. Cro. Jac.* 219.

(*r*) *Godson v. Good*, 2 Marsh. 300, by Gibbs C. J. ; *S. C.* 6 Taunt. 594 ; [*Gere v. Clarke*, 6 Hill (N. J.), 350 ; *Foster v. Hooper*, 2 Mass. 572 ; *Simonds v. Center*, 6 Mass. 18 ; *Rice*, appellant, 7 Allen, 112, 114 ; *Atwell v. Milton*, 4 Hen. & Munf. 253 ; *Chandler v. Neil*, 2 Hen. & Munf. 124 ; *Ayer v. Wilson*, 3 Const. Ct. 319 ; *Rowan v. Woodward*, 2 A. K. Marsh. 140 ; *Poole v. M'Leod*, 1 Sm. & M. 391 ; *Grant v. Shurter*, 1 Wend. 148 ; *Lawrence v. Interest*, 2 Penn. 724 ; 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 58. By statute in Tennessee, a joint action will lie against a surviving partner and the representatives of a deceased partner. *Simpson v. Young*, 2 Humph. 518 ; *Taylor v. Taylor*, 5 Humph. 112. So in North Carolina. *Brown v. Clary*, 1 Hayw.

107 ; *Davis v. Wilkinson*, 1 Hayw. 334.

It is provided by statute in Massachusetts that upon the death of one of two or more indebted in a joint contract, his estate shall be liable therefor as if the contract had been joint and several. *Genl. Sts. c. 97*, § 28. See *Burnside v. Merrick*, 4 Met. 544 ; *Curtis v. Mansfield*, 11 Cush. 152. Referring to this statute, Mr. Chief Justice Bigelow, in *Rice*, appellant, 7 Allen, 115, said : "It is obvious from the terms in which this enactment is expressed, that it does not affect the rule of the common law, which renders the survivor severally liable on a joint contract, after the decease of his co-contractor. This rule still remains in full force." Under the above act of Massachusetts, an action of contract for a debt due from a partnership may be maintained, and a verdict rendered against the executor of a deceased partner, although the estate of such partner is insolvent. *Sampson v. Shaw*, 101 Mass. 145. A surviving partner, who is administrator of the estate of his deceased partner, may be called upon to

alone liable. (*r*<sup>1</sup>) Thus, if two retain an attorney, and both die, the executor or administrator of the survivor only shall be charged, and not the executors of both; (*r*<sup>2</sup>) for a personal contract survives of both parties; otherwise of real contracts, as warranty; and, therefore, where, in an action against the executors of both, they pleaded jointly, and judgment was given for the attorney, it was stayed on motion, because the executor of the survivor only was chargeable, notwithstanding the pleading and admission of the parties. (*s*)

\* So in debt upon bond, it appeared upon oyer that A., B., and C. were bound jointly, and that A. was dead; whereas the action was brought against his executor and the other two. Upon demurrer, the court were of opinion that the action was not well brought; for by the death of one of the obligors his executor is wholly discharged. (*t*)

Again, if two enter into a joint bond, and one dies at any time before judgment, the survivor shall be charged alone. (*u*) And if one of two defendants dies after judgment, and the plaintiff elects to take execution against the personalty, the execution must be against the survivor alone. (*x*) So a release given by the obligee to the representatives of the deceased obligor is no answer to an action against the survivor. (*y*)

But if the contract be several, or joint and several, the executor of the deceased contractor may be sued at law in a separate action; (*z*) but he cannot be sued jointly with the survivor; be-

account in the probate court for his settlement of the partnership estate. *Leland v. Newton*, 102 Mass. 350. "This account necessarily involves the settlement of the partnership affairs." *Chapman C. J.* 102 Mass. 351.]

(*r*<sup>1</sup>) [*Gere v. Clarke*, 6 Hill (N. Y.), 350; 2 Chitty Contr. (11th Am. ed.) 1356, 1411.]

(*r*<sup>2</sup>) [The executors or administrators of two deceased obligors cannot be joined in the same action. *Watkins v. Tate*, 3 Call, 521; *Grymes v. Pendleton*, 4 Call, 130.]

(*s*) *Hamond v. Jethro*, 2 Brownl. 99. See, also, *Calder v. Rutherford*, 2 Brod. & Bing. 302; *Slater v. Wheeler*, 9 Sim. 156.

(*t*) *Osborne v. Crosbern*, 1 Sid. 238. See, also, *Towers v. Moor*, 2 Vern. 99; *Richardson v. Horton*, 6 Beav. 185.

(*u*) *Lampton v. Collingwood*, 4 Mod. 315. See statute 8 & 9 W. 3, c. 11, s. 7; reenacted by C. L. Procedure Act, 1852, s. 136; *ante*, 902.

(*x*) If he takes out execution upon the real lien, the charge must be equally against the survivor and the real representative of the deceased; for though a personal execution survives, a real does not. *Sir W. Harbert's case*, 3 Co. 14 a; 2 Saund. 51, note (4) to *Trethewy v. Ackland*.

(*y*) *Ashbee v. Pidduck*, 1 M. & W. 564.

(*z*) *May v. Woodward*, 1 Freem. 248. As to what words will constitute a joint and several bond, see *Tipping v. Coates*, 18 Beav. 401.



cause one is to be charged *de bonis testatoris*, the other *de bonis propriis*. (a)

With regard to the liability in equity of the executor of the deceased joint contractor, it is completely settled that in the case of a partnership debt, although at law, upon the death of a partner, the remedy against his executors is extinguished (inasmuch as a partnership contract is joint), \* yet they may be sued in equity. (b) But though it has long ceased to be disputed, that if the surviving partner prove to be unable to pay the whole debt, the joint creditor may then obtain full satisfaction in equity from the assets of the deceased partner, yet it has been lately a subject of much controversy, and still, it is believed, continues to be regarded as an unsettled point, whether the creditor has any right to resort to the representatives of the deceased partner so long as there is a surviving solvent partner, or so long as the insolvency of the surviving partner is not established. On the one hand, it has been asserted that the principle on which the creditor is entitled to relief against the assets of the deceased partner is merely through the medium of the equities subsisting between the partners themselves, and these equities, in respect of creditors, are, that joint debts shall be satisfied out of the joint estate, and that the separate estates of the partners shall not be liable to the demands of the creditors until the sufficiency or insolvency of the joint estate is established. And, therefore, it has been said the joint creditor must pursue the surviving partner in the first instance, and shall not be permitted to resort to the assets of the deceased partner, until it is established that full satisfaction cannot be obtained from the surviving partner. On the other hand, it is contended, that, in the consideration of a court of equity, a partnership debt is several as well as joint, and therefore that the

(a) *Hall v. Huffam*, 2 Lev. 228; [*Kemp v. Andrews*, Carth. 171; 1 Chitty Pl (16th Am. ed.) 58.]

(b) *Vulliamy v. Noble*, 3 Meriv. 619; 4 My. & Cr. 109. See *Holme v. Hammond*, L. R. 7 Ex. 218; [*Collyer Partn.* (5th Am. ed.) §§ 576-583, 580, note (3) and cases cited; 1 Story Eq. Jur. § 676; *Story Partn.* § 362; *Burnside v. Merrick*, 4 Met. 544; *Camp v. Grant*, 21 Conn. 41; *Fillyan v. Laverty*, 3 Florida, 72; *Bennett v. Woolfolk*, 15 Geo. 213.] This rule is

applicable to the case of executors carrying on their testator's trade, in that character, and in the ordinary course of the business accepting a bill of exchange describing themselves simply as executors of their testator. *Liverpool Borough Bank v. Walker*, 4 De G. & J. 24. The surviving partners are necessary parties to a creditors' suit against the assets of the deceased, and the case is not within the 32d order of August, 1841. *Hills v. M'Rae*, 9 Hare, 297.

joint creditor may, in the first instance, resort to the assets of the deceased partner, leaving it to the personal representatives of the deceased partner to take proper measures for recovering what, if anything, \* shall appear upon the partnership accounts to be due from the surviving partner to the estate of the deceased partner. The more recent decisions are strongly in favor of the latter proposition. In *Devaynes v. Noble*, (c) Sir W. Grant, in effect, decided that a partnership contract is, upon the death of a partner, to be considered as joint and several, and that where the surviving partners are insolvent, a creditor has a right to resort to the estate of the deceased partner, without regard to the state of the accounts as between him and the surviving partners. Two separate petitions of appeal were presented against this decision. The appeals were thrice argued; first, before Lord Eldon; again, in December, 1829, before Lord Lyndhurst; both of whom resigned the great seal, without delivering judgment; and again, for the third time, before Lord Brougham, who affirmed the decree. (d) Again, in the subsequent case of *Wilkinson v. Henderson*, (e) Sir John Leach M. R. held, that in a suit by a joint creditor against the representatives of a deceased partner and the surviving partner, the plaintiff was entitled to satisfaction out of the assets of the deceased partner, though it was not proved that the surviving partner was insolvent. And his honor, in giving his judgment, said that all the authorities establish that, in the consideration of a court of equity, a partnership debt is several, as well as joint. (f) And it has \* been laid down that the principle of

(c) 1 Meriv. 530; *Sleech's case*, 1 Meriv. 539.

(d) 2 Russ. & My. 495. See *Lodge v. Pritchard*, 1 De G., J. & Sm. 610; [(Am. ed.) note (1) and cases cited; *Allen v. Wells*, 22 Pick. 453-455; *M'Culloh v. Dashiell*, 1 H. & Gill, 96; *Dalghren v. Duncan*, 7 Sm. & M. 280; 1 Story Eq. Jur. § 676; *Wilder v. Keeler*, 3 Paige, 167; *Payne v. Matthews*, 6 Paige, 19; *Murray v. Murray*, 5 John. Ch. 50; *Hamersley v. Lambert*, 2 John. Ch. 509, 510; *Woodrop v. Ward*, 3 Desaus. 203; *Hall v. Hall*, 2 McCord Ch. 302; *Bowden v. Schatzell*, 1 Bailey Eq. 260; *Simmons v. Tongue*, 3 Bland, 356; *Cammack v. John-*

*son*, 1 Green (N. J.), 163; *Morgan v. His Creditors*, 20 Martin (La.), 599; *Jarvis v. Brooks*, 23 N. H. 136; *Crockett v. Crain*, 33 N. H. 542; *Bell v. Newman*, 5 Serg. & R. 93; *Walker v. Eyth*, 25 Penn. St. 216; *Merrill v. Neill*, 8 How. (U. S.) 414; *Morrison v. Kurtz*, 15 Ill. 193; *Cleghorn v. Ins. Bank*, 9 Geo. 319; *Baker v. Wimpee*, 19 Geo. 87; 2 Lindley Partn. (3d Eng. ed.) 1095 *et seq.*

(e) 1 My. & K. 582. See, also, *Brown v. Weatherby*, 12 Sim. 6; *Way v. Bassett*, 5 Hare, 68; 1 De G., J. & S. 616.

(f) In *Brown v. Gordon*, 16 Beav. 310, Romilly M. R. said that the debt, though gone at law, remains due in equity, be.

[1743] [1744]

the latter proposition extends to every joint contract for a loan of money, giving to the creditor the benefit of the security of several persons; without any distinction that the debt must be a mercantile debt incurred by joint traders. Thus, in *Thorpe v. Jackson*, (g) where four persons had opened a joint account with certain bankers, who advanced them money on such joint account, Alderson B. held, that upon the decease of one of the joint contractors, the bankers had a right in equity to immediate relief out of his assets, without claiming any relief against the surviving joint contractors, or showing that the latter were unable to pay by reason of their insolvency. (h)

In *Barker v. Buttress*, (i) a question arose as to the application of these doctrines to the executors of a deceased member of a joint stock banking company, with reference to the stat. 7 Geo. 4, c. 46 (the banking act). After the expiration of three years from his death, a suit had been instituted for the administration of his estate, and the common decree made for taking an account of his debts, and persons who were creditors of the banking company at his death, and had recovered judgments against the company, claimed before the master; and it was contended on their behalf that the testator having been liable to them in his lifetime, though, at law, the debts had survived against his \*copartners, yet his estate continued liable in equity. But it was held that the remedies given by the act were not cumulative, but substitutional

cause equity considers it to be unjust that where two or more persons are jointly liable, the death of one should throw the whole debt on the others, and exonerate his estate. In *Ridgway v. Clare*, 19 Beav. 111, the same learned judge took occasion to express his opinion as to the mode in which the court administers assets in cases of this description as follows, viz: Where both partners are solvent, there is no distinction made between joint and several creditors; they are all paid, and in taking the partnership accounts, the joint debts thus paid will be allowed in account by the surviving partner. If the estate of the deceased partner be insolvent, and that of the surviving partner solvent, the joint creditors will naturally go against the surviving partner, who will then be a cred-

itor against the separate estate of the insolvent partner for the amount paid by him to the joint creditors beyond his share. If both the deceased and surviving partner are insolvent, then the joint creditors must resort, in the first instance, to the joint estate, and can only go against the separate estate of each partner after the claims of his separate creditors have been satisfied. If both parties die before administration takes place, the rule is the same. See, also, *Lodge v. Pritchard*, 4 Giff. 294; 1 De G., J. & S. 610. See, further, on this subject, *Dixon on Partnership*, 513, 514.

(g) 2 Y. & Coll. 533.

(h) But see *Slater v. Wheeler*, 9 Sim. 157; *Other v. Ivison*, 3 Drew. 177, 181, 182.

(i) 7 Beav. 134.

for the ordinary liabilities of partners ; (*k*) and that consequently the claims were barred by the lapse of the three years, being the time limited by the act. (*l*)

The true doctrine on the subject of obtaining relief in equity by considering joint contracts as several, appears to be, that wherever a court of equity sees that in a contract joint in form, the real intention of the parties was, that it should be joint and several, it will give effect to such intention. Accordingly, in certain cases, a joint bond has, in equity, been considered as several. (*m*) But it is not a rule that every joint contract shall be considered as several in a court of equity ; for a joint contract cannot be extended beyond its legal operation, unless the party seeking so to extend it shows some previous equity entitling him to demand a several contract from each of the joint contractors, or unless there is some ground on which to infer mistake in the nature of the instrument. (*n*) In the case of a partnership debt, all the partners have had a benefit from the money advanced, or the credit given, and the obligation to pay exists independently of any instrument by which the debt may have been secured. (*o*) So where a joint bond has, \*in equity, been considered as several, there has been a credit previously given to the different persons who have entered into the obligation, and it was not the bond which first created the liability to pay. But where the obligation exists only by virtue of a joint covenant or bond, the extent of its operation can be measured only by the words in which it is conceived ; and a court of equity cannot give the instrument any other than its legal effect. (*p*) Accordingly, where a joint promissory note, signed “ J. and J. Ewing—James Parr, *surety*,” was given to a creditor

(*k*) See *Steward v. Greaves*, 10 M. & W. 711, accord.

(*l*) See 3 M. & G. 203, by Lord Truro, accord. See, also, *Heward v. Wheatley*, 5 De G. & Sm. 552, from which it appears that a creditor who has obtained judgment against the company should try, and try in vain, to enforce it against the members for the time being, before he can come in under a decree for the administration of the estate of a deceased shareholder.

(*m*) *Primrose v. Bromley*, 1 Atk. 90 ; *Bishop v. Church*, 2 Ves. sen. 100, 371 ;

*Hoare v. Contencin*, 1 Bro. C. C. 27 ; *Thomas v. Frazer*, 4 Ves. 399 ; *Burn v. Burn*, 3 Ves. 573 ; *Ex parte Kendall*, 17 Ves. 525 ; *Liverpool Borough Bank v. Walker*, 4 De G. & J. 24 ; *ante*, 1742, note (*b*).

(*n*) In case of such a mistake, it seems that equity will relieve as well against a surety as a principal. *Rawstone v. Parr*, 3 Russ. 424, 539.

(*o*) *Sumner v. Powell*, 2 Meriv. 37.

(*p*) *Sumner v. Powell*, 2 Meriv. 30 ; *S. C. affirmed*, 1 Turn. & R. 423 ; *Richardson v. Horton*, 6 Beav. 185.

of the firm of John and James Ewing, and James Parr died, John and James Ewing being both alive, one of whom afterwards became bankrupt, and the other insolvent; it was held that the promissory note could not be considered as several, against James Parr the surety. (*q*) So where A. and B. were obligors in a joint bond, and A., who was alleged to be the principal debtor, died; it was held that his assets were not, in equity, liable upon the bond, but that the liability survived to B. (*r*) Again, where premises had been demised to A. and B. who were copartners, upon which they carried on their partnership business, and A. died during the lease, and, after his death, his executors carried on the business in copartnership with B. on the premises; it was held, nevertheless, that the covenants in the lease, which were joint only, were not to be considered in equity as several as well as joint, so as to make A.'s estate liable for breaches of the covenant which occurred after his death. (*s*)

It being now settled, beyond dispute, that the estate of a deceased partner is liable in equity to the creditors of the firm, although the legal remedy exists only against the survivors, a further question remains to be considered, viz, \* when and by what means that liability is to terminate. It seems clear that the deceased partner's estate must continue liable until the debts, which affected him at the time of his death, are, in some way, fully discharged. (*t*) The discharge, however, may take place in various ways; not only by direct payment, but also by dealings with the continuing partners operating as a payment of the joint debt, or from the creditors having agreed to take and taking the security of the surviving partners in discharge of the joint debt. (*u*) Or there may be an equitable bar to the remedy; for as the right stands only upon equitable grounds, if the dealing of the creditor with the surviving partners has been such as to make it inequitable that he should go against the assets of the deceased partner, he will not, upon general rules and principles, be entitled to the benefit of the demand. (*x*) But the estate of the deceased partner is not discharged

(*q*) *Rawstone v. Parr*, 3 Russ. 424, 539; 925; 4 My. & Cr. 110; *Brown v. Gordon*, 16 Beav. 302. See, also, *Lee v. Flood*, 2 Other v. Iveson, 3 Drew. 177.

(*r*) *Richardson v. Horton*, 6 Beav. 185. Sm. & G. 250; *Blair v. Bromley*, 5 Hare,

(*s*) *Clarke v. Bickers*, 14 Sim. 639. See, 555, per Wigram V. C.; *Lyth v. Ault*, 7 also, *Dixon on Partnership*, 512 *et seq.* Ex. 669.

(*t*) *Vulliamy v. Noble*, 3 Meriv. 619.

(*x*) *Ex parte Kendall*, 17 Ves. 526, by

(*u*) *Thompson v. Percival*, 5 B. & Ad. Lord Eldon; 4 My. & Cr. 110.

by the mere circumstance that the creditor, knowing of the death, continues his transactions with the surviving partners, and forbears for several years, at their request, to take any steps to enforce payment of his debt; (*y*) nor by his receipt of interest from them and a new partner. (*z*)

With respect to the right of a surviving co-contractor to enforce contribution from the personal representatives of his deceased companion; although it cannot be stated as a universal proposition that in all cases where two or more jointly employ a third person, there is an implied undertaking in all to contribute ratably *inter se*, so as to bind the executors of a deceased co-contractor; yet if several persons jointly contract for a chattel, to be made or procured for the \* common benefit of all (for instance, the building of a ship or the furnishing of a house), *and as to which the executors of any party, dying before the work is completed, are by agreement to stand in the place of the party dying*; in such a case, though the legal remedy of the party employed would be solely against the survivors, yet the law would certainly imply a contract on the part of the deceased co-contractor, that his executors should contribute his proportion of the price of the article to be furnished. (*a*)

With respect to the liabilities of the executors of shareholders in public companies; where the deed of settlement provides that the company shall continue for a certain term of years, and that the shares of a deceased proprietor shall belong to his personal representatives, but that they shall not be deemed proprietors until they are duly admitted, and have executed the deed of settlement, or done some other act, and then, and not before, they are to become proprietors and receive the dividends, it is established that, on the death of a shareholder, his estate, and consequently his executors or administrators, in their representative capacity, continue liable

Liability of executors, as such, of deceased shareholders in public companies.

(*y*) Winter v. Innes, 4 My. & Cr. 101.

(*z*) Harris v. Farwell, 13 Beav. 403.

For other cases relating to these doctrines, see Dixon on Partnership, 520 *et seq.*; [Beach v. Norton, 9 Conn. 182; Calvert v. Marlow, 18 Ala. 67.]

(*a*) Prior v. Henbrow, 8 M. & W. 873.

See, also, Batard v. Hawes, 2 El. & Bl. 287, 298, *post*, 1773, note (*i*), where the court seemed to think the executors liable without any special agreement. [See Bachelder v. Fisk, 17 Mass. 464.]

until a new personal liability has been created pursuant to the deed. (b)

The executors of one whose name has, since his decease, been inserted in the last filed memorial or return (under 7 & 8 Vict. c. 113, s. 19) are not liable to execution on \* a judgment against the company, although the testator was properly returned as a shareholder in previous memorials. (c)

In every case where the testator is bound by a covenant, the <sup>Covenants concerning the realty.</sup> executor shall be bound by it, if it be not determined by the death of the testator; (d) that is, unless it is such a covenant as was to be performed by the person of the testator. (e) Thus, in *Thursden v. Warthen*, (f) a lord of a manor covenanted for himself, his heirs, and executors, within seven years to convey, upon request, a copyhold to the plaintiff for life, *secundum consuetudinem manerii*. The covenantor died, and the plaintiff requested his executor to convey the copyhold, which he refused; and thereupon, the plaintiff brought an action of covenant against the executor. It was objected that the declaration did not show what estate the covenantor had in the manor, and therefore it should be intended to be a fee-simple; and if so, then the request ought to have been made to him who was to make the estate, and this was the heir; for the executor could not possibly perform the covenant, and so no breach by him. But Coke, chief justice, said that the request made to the executor was good; because executors represent the person of the testator as to the performance of covenants to be in covenant performed. And to this the whole court (except Houghton, justice) agreed; and judgment was given for the plaintiff.

So in the case of *Macartney v. Blundell*, (g) in Dom. Proc.,

(b) In re Northern Coal Mining case, 13 Beav. 133; S. C. (*nomine* Blakeley's case) 3 Mac. & G. 726. See, also, Gouthwaite's case, 3 Mac. & G. 187; Keen's Executor's case, 3 De G., M. & G. 272; *Heward v. Wheatley*, Ib. 628. See, further, as to the liabilities of the executors of deceased shareholders, In re Herefordshire Bank, 33 Beav. 435; In re East of England Bank, L. R. 1 Eq. 219; In re Leeds

Banking Company, L. R. 1 Ch. App. 231; *Baird's case*, L. R. 5 Ch. App. 725.

(c) *Powis v. Butler*, 3 C. B. N. S. 645, affirmed in error, 4 C. B. N. S. 469.

(d) Bro. Covenant, pl. 12; Com. Dig. Covenant, C. 1.

(e) *Hyde v. Dean of Windsor*, Cro. Eliz. 553; *Bally v. Wells*, 3 Wils. 29.

(f) 2 Bulstr. 158.

(g) 2 Ridgw. P. C. 113.

the appellant claimed the renewal of a lease, pursuant to a covenant, against the heirs of the covenantor. They refused, alleging that the covenantor was bare tenant for life. And it was holden that this refusal was a breach \* of the covenant for which an action could be maintained at law against his representatives.

The executor is not only liable upon all covenants by the testator which have been broken in his lifetime, (*h*) but, moreover, he is answerable for all breaches in his own time, as far as he has assets. For the privity of contract of the testator is not determined by his death. (*i*) Thus, if a tenant in tail leases for years, and dies, and the issue in tail ousts the termor, he shall have covenanted against the executors, upon an express covenant for quiet enjoyment. (*k*)

Again, although a covenant in a lease should be of a nature such as to run with the land, so as to make the assignee of the term liable for a breach of it after the assignment, yet this shall not discharge the executor of the original lessee from a concurrent liability on the covenant, as far as he has assets, even although the lessor shall have accepted the assignee as his tenant.

Therefore, where the lessee has assigned the term in his lifetime, the lessor may still maintain an action of covenant against the executor of the lessee, upon an express covenant for payment of rent, even although the lessor has accepted the assignee for his tenant. And so may the assignee of the reversion, by virtue of the stat. Hen. 8, c. 34. (*l*)

\* So if the executor himself assigns the term, the lessor may afterwards bring covenant against the executor, not-

liability of  
executor  
of land-  
lord and  
tenant:

in cove-  
nant:

(*h*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 251, 14th ed.

(*i*) Coghill v. Frelove, 3 Mod. 326.  
[See Hovey v. Newton, 11 Pick. 421.]

(*k*) F. N. B. 145, E. note (*a*).

(*l*) Brett v. Cumberland, Cro. Jac. 521, 522; 1 Saund. 241 *a*, note (5) to Thursby v. Plant. But although the executor of the original lessee will be liable for breaches of covenant, incurred after an assignment by the testator or by himself, it is otherwise where the testator was the assignee of the lessee; for no action will lie against

him except in respect of breaches in his own time; and therefore, all future liability may be discharged by assignment over, even to a pauper. Taylor v. Shum, 1 Bos. & Pull. 21. And since such a course is quite justifiable, morally, as well as legally, after an offer to surrender the lease to the landlord, the executor may be guilty of a *devastavit* in neglecting to adopt it. Rowley v. Adams, 4 My. & Cr. 534.



withstanding any acceptance of the assignee as tenant. And so, also, may the assignee of the reversion. (*m*)

Hence an executor, when he carries a lease to market, has a right to require that the purchaser shall covenant for indemnity against the payment of rent and performance of covenants, notwithstanding the executor himself is not bound to enter into a covenant for the title, but only that he has done no act to encumber. (*n*)

It must be observed, however, that there is a distinction, with respect to this liability, between an express covenant and a mere covenant *in law*. For no action lies against an executor or administrator upon a covenant in law, which is not broken till after the death of the testator. (*o*) Accordingly, in the case of *Adams v. Gibney*, (*p*) a tenant for life, \*remainder over, demised to the lessee, his executors, &c. for the term of fifteen years, *without any express covenant for quiet enjoyment*. The lessee was evicted by the remainderman, after the death of the tenant for life, but before the expiration of the fifteen years. And the court of common pleas held that the lessee could not maintain an action of covenant against the executor of the tenant for life, in respect of such eviction, although it was admitted that the word "demise" in the lease imported and made a covenant *in law* for quiet enjoyment by the lessee during the continuance of the estate out of which the lease was granted. (*p*<sup>1</sup>)

(*m*) *Hellier v. Casbard*, 1 Sid. 266; S. C. 1 Lev. 127; *Coghill v. Freelove*, 3 Mod. 325. But see stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 27, *ante*, 1345, 1346, note (*n*).

(*n*) *Staines v. Morris*, 1 Ves. & B. 8; *Wilkins v. Fry*, 1 Meriv. 265, 266. Even if there be no such covenant, yet if the lessor proceeds against the executor, and recovers damages for a breach of the covenant after the assignment, the executor may have an action on the case, or *assumpsit*, against the assignee, for having neglected to perform the covenant, whereby the executor sustained damage. *Burnett v. Lynch*, 5 B. & C. 589; *Marzetti v. Williams*, 1 B. & Ad. 424, by Lord Tenterden; *Moule v. Garrett*, L. R. 5 Ex. 132. But this liability in the assignee continues no longer than his interest as such. *Wolveridge v. Steward*, 1 Cr. & M. 644; *Humble v. Langston*, 7 M. & W. 530;

*Rowley v. Adams*, 4 My. & Cr. 540. Though, perhaps, the executor has the same remedy against each subsequent assignee in respect of the breaches committed during the continuance of the interest of each. 1 Cr. & M. 660.

(*o*) *Swann v. Stransham*, Dyer, 257 a; *Bragg v. Wiseman*, 1 Brownl. 22; *Proctor v. Johnson*, 2 Brownl. 214; *Newton v. Osborn*, Style, 387; *Porter v. Swetnam*, Style, 407; *Netherton v. Jessop*, Holt, 412; *Andrew v. Pearce*, 1 New Rep. 158; *Touchst.* 160; Com. Dig. Covenant, C. 1; *Adams v. Gibney*, 6 Bing. 656. See, also, *Williams v. Burrell*, 1 C. B. 402, as to what shall constitute an implied or an express covenant within the meaning of this rule.

(*p*) 6 Bing. 656.

(*p*<sup>1</sup>) [Damages may be recovered for breach of covenant for quiet enjoyment,

With respect to the liability of the executor of the lessee to an action of *debt* for rent accrued after the death of the testator, it is fully established that the executor will be <sup>in debt:</sup> liable as long as the lease continues, and as far as he has assets, as well in that form of action as in covenant, notwithstanding the lessor assigned the term before his death, or the executor has done so since. (q) But if the lessor has *accepted the assignee as his tenant*, then no action of debt will lie against the executor for rent accrued since the assignment, although, as it just appeared, an action of covenant may be maintained on an express covenant for its payment during the continuance of the lease.

This may be the proper place to consider more fully <sup>personal liability of executor for rent accrued after testator's death:</sup> a subject, which has been already partially discussed, (r) viz, \* the personal responsibility of the executor for the rent incurred under a demise to his testator. (r<sup>1</sup>)

If the whole rent incurs in the lifetime of the testator, the ac-

curring both before and after the death of the covenantor, in one and the same cause of action against his administrator. *Hovey v. Newton*, 11 Pick. 421.]

(q) It is true that Lord Coke, in *Walker's case*, 3 Co. 24 a, says that "it was adjudged in *Overton v. Sydhall*, that if the executor of a lessee for years assigns over his interest, an action of debt does not lie against him for rent due after the assignment; and that if lessee for years assigns over his interest, an action of debt does not lie against him for rent due after the assignment; and that if lessee for years assigns over his interest and dies, the executor shall not be charged for rent due after his death; for by the death of the lessee the personal privity of contract as to the action of debt in both cases was determined." But this is contrary to all the subsequent authorities. See *Coghill v. Freelove*, 3 Mod. 325; *Pitcher v. Tovey*, 4 Mod. 76; 1 Saund. 241 b, note (5).

(r) *Ante*, 680.

(r<sup>1</sup>) [It has been held in New York, in the case of *Van Rensselaer v. Platner*, 2 John. Cas. 17, that the executors and administrators of a grantee in fee are liable in covenant for the rent when the grantee has covenanted for himself, his executors

and administrators, to pay a rent in fee; and the same rule prevailed in Pennsylvania until the recent case of *Quain's Appeal*, 22 Penn. St. 510, in which Lowrie J. spoke as follows: "Does a ground-rent covenant survive against executors and administrators? In its usual form, it binds heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, but still this may be satisfied as to executors and administrators, if they pay the rent that accrued in the decedent's lifetime. It is a perpetual covenant, and it is totally impracticable to require it to be performed by executors and administrators, for their office is not perpetual. If we retain the perpetuity of the covenant as against them, even with the restriction that they are to be liable only when the resort to the land is ineffectual, we still prevent all distribution of the estate in their hands; and, as all the lands of the decedent are assets for the payment of debts, we constructively charge the rent of a single lot upon all his lands. It is a covenant payable, in the contemplation of the parties, out of the profits of the land; and it would be entirely unreasonable that the law should hold the administrator for the rent, when it gives the land to the heir." See *Smith's Land. & Ten.* 378.]

tion to recover it from the executor must be brought against him in his representative character; and, therefore, if the form of action be in debt, it must be in the *detinet* only, and not in the *debet* and *detinet*; and the judgment must be *de bonis testatoris*. (s)

But in an action of debt for rent incurred after the death of the lessee, *if the executor enters* upon the demised premises, the lessor has his election, either to sue him as executor, or to charge him personally as assignee in respect of the perception of the profits. (t) Therefore, if the action be brought in debt, the lessor may either sue the defendant as executor in the *detinet*, (u) or in the *debet* and *detinet*, (x) as assignee of the term. (y) So, in covenant, the lessor has \* his election, either to charge the executor as executor, (z) or as assignee, without naming him executor, stating generally in the declaration that the estate of the lessee in the premises lawfully came to the defendant. (a)

If the executor does not enter, (b) he is still chargeable \* as ex-

(s) 1 Roll. Abr. 603, S. pl. 9; Fruen v. Porter, 1 Sid. 379.

(t) Boulton v. Canon, 1 Freem. 337; S. C. Pollexf. 125; 1 Saund. 1, note (1) to Jevens v. Harridge.

(u) Royston v. Cordrye, Aleyn, 42; Hope v. Bague, 3 East, 2.

(x) Hargrave's case, 5 Co. 31; Rich v. Frank, Cro. Jac. 238; Caly v. Joslin, Aleyn, 34; 1 Saund. 1, note (1). So if the executor enters he may be charged in the *debet* and *detinet* for the current half-year's rent which commenced before the testator died. The Bailiffs of Ipswich v. Martin, Cro. Jac. 411; Jevens v. Harridge, 1 Saund. 1. But if one sum of money is due for arrears of rent which became due in the lifetime of the testator, and another sum for arrears due in the executor's own time, the lessor cannot in one action charge the executor in the *detinet* for the one part, and in the *debet* and *detinet* for the other; for then two different judgments would be necessary; Salter v. Codbold, 3 Lev. 74; but one action may be brought for both sums in the *detinet* only. Aylmer v. Hide, 13 Geo. 2; B. R. M. S. Selw. N. P. 610, 6th ed. If the lessor in such case will

not waive his right of demanding satisfaction out of the estate of the executor, he must bring two actions.

(y) In such cases it appears to have been the practice to name the defendant executor, and to state in the declaration, in the *debet* and *detinet*, the demise to the deceased, his death, the grant of administration to the defendant, his entry into the demised premises, and the subsequent accruing of rent. See the entry in Jevens v. Harridge, 1 Saund. 1, and the case of Caly v. Joslin, Aleyn, 34. But it is sufficient to charge the defendant in the *debet* and *detinet* as assignee generally, without naming him executor. See Lyddall v. Dunlap, 1 Wils. 4, 5; Wollaston v. Hakewill, 3 M. & Gr. 297; *infra*, note (b).

(z) Buckley v. Pirk, 1 Salk. 317.

(a) Tilney v. Norris, 1 Ld. Raym. 553; S. C. 1 Salk. 309; Carth. 519; Buckley v. Pirk, 1 Salk. 317; 1 Saund. 1, note (1).

(b) There seems to be some doubt, whether this distinction, as to the entry of the executor, has not, in a great measure, ceased to exist since the decision of Williams v. Bosanquet, 1 Brod. & Bing. 238. That case decided (overruling Eaton v. Jacques, Dougl. 455) that the assignee, in

[1754] [1755]

ecutor in the *detinet*, because he cannot so waive the term as not to be liable for the rent as far as he has assets. (c)

Where the executor, having entered, is sued in the *debet* and *detinet*, as assignee, for rent incurred after his entry, he cannot

fact, of a lease may be charged as assignee on a covenant contained in it for the payment of rent, though he has never occupied or actually become possessed. And it does not appear altogether clear, whether it is not a consequence, that an executor may likewise be charged, as assignee in law, without entry. See the observation of Parke B. at the conclusion of his judgment, in *Nation v. Tozer*, 1 Cr., M. & R. 176; 4 Tyrwh. 565. Since these remarks were written, the point above suggested has been much discussed in the C. P. in the case of *Wollaston v. Hake-will*, 3 M. & Gr. 297; S. C. 3 Scott N. R. 593. In that case the plaintiffs declared, as assignees of a lessor, on certain covenants contained in a lease for ninety-nine years, and alleged that all the estate of the lessee, Thomas Stead, of and in a great part of the demised premises, "by assignment thereof then made, came to and vested in the defendant, whereupon and whereby the defendant became and was possessed of the said part of the said demised premises, and continued so possessed, until the commencement of this suit." And the plaintiffs then proceeded to assign a breach of covenant for the non-payment of certain additional rents reserved by the lease, and also a breach of covenant in not keeping the premises in repair. The defendant, by her plea, traversed "that all the estate, &c. of the said Thomas Stead, of and in the said part of the said premises by assignment thereof made, came to and vested in her, in manner and form, &c.;" upon which issue was joined. After trial and verdict for the plaintiffs, a motion for a nonsuit was made on the ground of an alleged variance between the allegation in the declaration, charging the defendant generally as assignee of the lease, and the proof offered at the trial, whereby she appeared to be only executrix of an assignee, and

that she had never entered or taken the profits. But the court was of opinion that there was no variance. And Tindal C. J., in delivering the judgment of the court, said, that as to the argument that the executor, by being charged generally as assignee, becomes thereby liable *de bonis propriis*, the answer is that he may, by proper pleading, discharge himself from personal liability, by alleging that he is not otherwise assignee than by being executor of the lessee, and that he has never entered or taken possession of the demised premises; and from all liability as executor by alleging that the term is of no value, and that he has no assets. But that, if instead of relieving himself by pleading, he takes issue on the fact, whether he is assignee or not, the evidence that he is executor proves the affirmative of the issue that he takes the term by assignment. And his lordship referred to the case of *Green v. Lord Listowell*, 2 Ir. Law Rep. 384, as having determined this precise point. See, also, *Ackland v. Pring*, 2 M. & Gr. 937. As to an executor *de son tort*, see *Paull v. Simpson*, 9 Q. B. 365. This subject has been again considered in the recent case of *Kearsley v. Oxley*, 2 H. & C. 896. In that case the declaration charged the defendant as assignee of a lease, and alleged the non-payment of rent. The defendant pleaded that administration *de bonis non* of the lessee was granted to a woman whom he afterwards married, and that neither he nor his wife ever entered into nor took possession of the demised premises, nor did they vest in the defendant otherwise than as in and by the plea appeared. And it was held that this plea afforded a good answer to the action as an argumentative traverse that the defendant was assignee.

(c) *Howse v. Webster*, Yelv. 103; *Helier v. Casbert*, 1 Lev. 127.

plead *plene administravit*, (*d*) even although he be named executor in the declaration; (*e*) for if the rent be of less value than the land, as the law *prima facie* supposes, so much of the profits as suffices to make up the rent is appropriated to the lessor, and cannot be applied to anything else; and therefore the plea of *plene administravit* confesses a \* misapplication, since no other payment out of the profits can be justified till the rent is answered. (*f*) And if judgment be given against the executor, it is *de bonis propriis*. (*g*) But if the land be of less value than the rent, the executor may plead the special matter, viz, that he has no assets, and that the land is of less value than the rent, and pray judgment whether he shall be charged otherwise than in the *detinet* only. (*h*) If, however, such a plea be pleaded to the whole rent in the declaration, it will not be a good bar unless it shows that there were no profits at all; because the executor is chargeable personally for so much of the rent as the premises are worth. If, therefore, the profits have been less than the rent, and therefore cover a part only, that part should be confessed and the plea pleaded to the remainder. (*i*) In \* *Remnant v. Bremridge*, (*k*) which was an

(*d*) *Caly v. Joslyn*, Aley, 34; *Helier v. Casbert*, 1 Lev. 127, 128; *Sackvill v. Evans*, Freem. 171; *Buckley v. Pirk*, 1 Salk. 317.

(*e*) See *ante*, 1753, note (*y*).

(*f*) *Buckley v. Pirk*, 1 Salk. 317.

(*g*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 285, 286, 14th ed.; 1 Saund. 1, note (1). So if the executor be sued in *assumpsit* for use and occupation in his own time, he shall be liable *de bonis propriis*, though it be laid that the defendant occupied *as executor*. *Wigley v. Ashton*, 3 B. & Ald. 101. See *Atkins v. Humphrey*, 3 C. B. 654.

(*h*) *Billingham v. Spearman*, 1 Salk. 297; *Buckley v. Pirk*, 1 Salk. 317; 1 Saund. 1, note (1). In many instances the profits of the land may be insufficient for a given period, although the lease may, on the whole, be beneficial. As in respect to the rent for the occupation of premises from Michaelmas to Lady Day, especially where almost the whole profit is taken in the summer; as, formerly, in

the case of a lease of tithes or of meadow grounds which are usually flooded in the winter. Wentw. Off. Ex. 289, 14th ed. So the profits for a series of years may be less than the amount of the rent, although the lease for the whole term may be of no small value; as in the case of a lease of woods, which are fellable only once in eight or nine years, and the felling has been very recent. *Ib.* 290. In these and the like instances, the executor is personally liable only to the extent of the profits, and for such proportion of the rent as shall exceed the profits is chargeable merely in the capacity of executor, or, in other words, as far only as he has assets; and in such case, to an action brought by the lessor against him in the *debit* and *detinet*, he must disclose the matter by special pleading. 1 Salk. 317; *Toller*, 280.

(*i*) *Rubery v. Stevens*, 4 B. & Ad. 241; S. C. 1 Nev. & M. 185. In that case the plaintiff having declared, in covenant, for

(*k*) 8 Taunt. 191; S. C. 9 B. Moore, 94.

action for use and occupation generally, where it appeared that the defendant, who was the administrator of the original tenant under an agreement for a lease, had taken possession after the intestate's death, yet, it having been proved by the defendant, under the general issue, that the premises had been productive of no profit to him, and that eight months after the death of the intestate he had offered to surrender them to the plaintiff, it was held that this constituted a good defence to the action.

And on the same principle, although, as it has already appeared, (l) an executor, generally speaking, cannot waive the term, for he must renounce the executorship *in toto*, or not at all; yet, if the value of the land is of less amount than the rent, and there is a deficiency of assets, he may waive such a lease. (m) And if there are assets to bear the yearly loss for some years, but not during the whole term, then, it seems, the executor must pay the rent as long as \*the assets will hold out, and must then waive the possession, giving notice to the reversioner. (n)

But if the executor be sued *as executor*, in debt in the *detinet*, for rent incurred after the death of the testator, he may plead *plene administravit*; for that is a good plea wherever no other judgment can be given but only against the defendant as executor. (o)

So, where the executor is charged *as executor*, in an action of covenant, for non-payment of rent incurred in the defendant's own

rent at 26*l.* a year, the defendants pleaded that they were only chargeable as executors, and that the term came to them as such; that the premises were of less yearly value than the said rent of 26*l.*, viz, of no value; and that they had fully administered, &c. The plaintiff replied, that the premises were of the yearly value of 26*l.*, and issue was joined thereon. At the trial the yearly value was found by the jury to be 20*l.* And the court of king's bench held that the replication was, in substance, that the premises were of some value; that the issue was merely informal and cured by verdict; and that the plaintiff might recover the arrears of rent at the rate fixed by the jury. See, also, *Hopwood v. Whaley*, 6 C. B. 744, where in a similar plea, an averment that the defendant "*did not*" was held, after ver-

dict, to mean that he "*could not*" derive any profit from the demised premises; and it was further held that the plea might be taken distributively, and the plaintiff should recover to the extent to which defendant might, by the exercise of reasonable diligence, have derived profit.

(l) See *ante*, 680.

(m) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* c. 11, p. 244, c. 12, p. 290, 14th ed.; *Wilkinson v. Cawood*, 3 Anstr. 309, by Macdonald C. B. (cited by *Wood V. C.* 1 Kay & J. 575). He must, it should seem, promptly offer to surrender the lease, and this will help him as to subsequent breaches of covenant. See *Reid v. Lord Tenderden*, 4 Tyrwh. 118, 120.

(n) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* *ubi supra*.

(o) *Lyddall v. Dunlapp*, 1 Wils. 5.

time, *plene administravit* is a good plea, although the defendant might have been charged as assignee of the term. (*p*)

It remains to consider how these points are affected by the assignment of the lease. (*p*<sup>1</sup>) If the term was assigned by the testator, it seems clear that the executor cannot be charged as assignee, because the lease did not pass to him; but still he will be liable as executor in debt in the *detinet* for the rent, unless the lessor has accepted the assignee as his tenant; (*q*) and even in that case the executor will be liable, *as executor*, in covenant. (*r*) If the executor enters, and afterwards himself assigns the lease, then he is chargeable, *as assignee*, for that time only during which he occupied. (*s*) And if he is sued for rent incurred since the \* assignment by himself, he is liable in his representative character only. Therefore, if the lessor brings an action of covenant against the executor, and charges that after the testator's death, and the proving of the will by the defendant, the demised premises came by assignment to one A. B., and that such assignee has broken the covenants in the lease, the defendant may plead *plene administravit*. (*t*)

It must here be observed, that the court of common pleas held, in the case of *Tremeere v. Morison*, (*u*) that although, in respect of rent, the personal liability of an executor of a lessee does not exceed the value of the demised premises, yet this qualification does not extend to a covenant for repairs; but that where an executor is sued as assignee on a covenant to repair, he is liable as any other assignee. Accordingly, in that case, a plea by the executor that the demised

personal  
responsi-  
bility of  
executor  
for repairs  
after testa-  
tor's death:

(*p*) *Lyddall v. Dunlapp*, 1 Wils. 5; *Wilson v. Wigg*, 10 East, 315. But if issue be joined upon this plea, and it should be proved that the executor has received any profit from the land, there would, it should seem, be a verdict against him; for he could not legally apply the profits to any other purpose than payment of the rent. Therefore, if the land yields some profit, but less than the rent, the executor ought to plead *plene administravit præter* the profit. This doctrine, however, applies only when the action is brought on a covenant in a lease to pay the rent thereby reserved, and not to a case where the assignor of a lease sues

the executor of the assignee on a covenant to perform the covenants in the lease, and to indemnify the assignor for any breach of them, notwithstanding the breach assigned is the non-payment of rent. *Collins v. Crouch*, 13 Q. B. 542.

(*p*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Montague v. Smith*, 13 Mass. 405.]

(*q*) *Helier v. Casbert*, 1 Lev. 127. See *ante*, 1752.

(*r*) See *ante*, 1751. See *Leigh v. Thornton*, 1 B. & Ald. 625.

(*s*) See *ante*, 1750, note (l).

(*t*) *Wilson v. Wigg*, 10 East, 313.

(*u*) 1 Bing. N. S. 89; S. C. 4 M. & Scott, 607.

premises had yielded no profit, nor had been of any value whatever, since the testator's death, with the addition of an averment of *plene administravit*, and an offer to surrender before the breaches occurred, was held bad on demurrer. (x) The principal ground of this decision appears to have been, that the law is clear that an action of waste will lie against an executor for any waste done in his time, as well permissive as voluntary. (y)

This decision appears to have been to some extent confirmed by the subsequent case in *Q. B. of Hornidge v. Wilson*. (z) That was an action of debt for rent against the defendant as assignee of a term. The defendant pleaded that he was administrator; that the premises were of less value, and had yielded less profit, than the arrears of the rent, that is to say, £——; that he had paid over to the plaintiff all the profit he had received, and had fully \* administered, and had offered to surrender. Replication, that the premises were worth more than the sum in the plea mentioned, and a denial of the surrender. The premises were demised by a party, through whom the plaintiff claimed, to N. for twenty-one years, in 1818, the lease containing a covenant by the lessee to repair. N., in 1827, underlet to E. for twelve years, wanting ten days, at a rent exceeding that reserved in the lease. N. died in 1829, and administration was granted to the defendant in 1830. E. died in 1828, and the premises since that time had been occupied by E.'s sister, who for some years had paid the rent, out of which the plaintiff's rent was paid, but had since become insolvent, and her rent had fallen into arrear. The premises had become out of repair, and had been for some years, at the time of the commencement of the action, of less value than the rent reserved in the original lease; but would be of that value if repaired. The defendant had given the plaintiff notice of his willingness to surrender. And the court of queen's bench held, first, that the proof of non-payment of rent by the under-lessee was no defence to this action, on the issue as to the value of the premises. Secondly, that under the same issue, the defendant could not rely on the premises being out of repair as a ground of defence, being himself bound by the covenant to repair. And in *Sleap v. Newman*, (a)

(x) But see the observations of Bayley B. in *Reid v. Lord Tenterden*, 4 Tyrwh. 118, 120. (z) 11 Ad. & El. 645; S. C. 2 Perr. & D. 641.

(a) 12 C. B. N. S. 116.

(y) See *Ives v. Sammes*, 2 Anders. 51; 2 Inst. 302.



the case of *Tremeere v. Morison* was expressly recognized and acted on by the court of common pleas.

In *Buckworth v. Simpson*, (b) A. demised to B. certain lands and premises for one year certain, and then from year to year, so long as the parties should think proper, with power to determine it on giving notice to quit; and the lease contained various terms and conditions as to the management of the lands and repairing the buildings. The lessee died, and his executors entered into the occupation of the premises, and continued to occupy and paid rent. And the court of exchequer held that they were chargeable in their \*personal character, upon the terms contained in the original demise; their continuing to occupy, and the landlord's abstaining from giving notice to quit, raising an implied promise on their parts to abide by the terms of the original contract. (c)

It may be useful, in this place, to recur to the remark which there has already been occasion to make, (d) viz, that if lands are leased for years by demise not under seal, and one of the two executors of the lessee enters into the demised premises, such entry does not inure as the entry of the two executors, so as to make them both liable in an action for use and occupation. (e)

It has been held, (f) that under the stat. 14 Geo. 3, c. 78 (the building act), where a party-wall has been rebuilt, the person who is owner of and entitled to the improved rent of the adjoining premises is liable to contribution out of such rent, though he be no otherwise owner than as an executor or administrator. (g)

In *Abercrombie v. Hickman*, (h) the provisional assignee of the insolvent court, under stat. 1 Geo. 4, c. 119, s. 7, assigned the estate of an insolvent to an assignee, who assented to such assignment, and acted under it as tenant of premises which the insolvent held as lessee for years after the death of such last mentioned assignee.

(b) 1 Cr., M. & R. 834.

(f) *Thacker v. Wilson*, 3 Ad. & El.

(c) See *Arden v. Sullivan*, 14 Q. B. 832, 145.

840.

(g) See *ante*, 1676.

(d) *Ante*, 949.

(e) *Nation v. Tozer*, 1 Cr., M. & R. 172; 676.

(h) 8 Ad. & El. 683; S. C. 3 Nev. & P.

S. C. 4 Tyrwh. 561.

And the court of queen's bench held that his executor was liable to the lessor for breaches of covenants in the lease subsequent to the testator's death, it not appearing that the insolvent court had appointed fresh assignees.

In *Stephens v. Hotham*, (i) Wood V. C. made a decree for a specific performance of a covenant in a lease to take a \* renewed lease against the executors of the lessee, who had entered and admitted assets. His honor acted in this case unwillingly, and contrary, it seems, to his own opinion, on the authority of the decision of *Shadwell V. C. in Phillips v. Everard*. (k) And the learned judge said that, in this case, the lease must be so framed that no personal liability should be incurred by the executors; though if the lease were a beneficial one claimed by them, they must enter into full covenants.

If the purchaser of a real estate dies, without having paid the purchase-money, his heir-at-law, or the devisee of the land purchased, will be entitled to have the estate paid for by the executor or administrator. (l) And if the personal estate cannot be got in, and the heir or devisee pays for the land out of his own pocket, he may afterwards call upon the personal representative to reimburse him. (m) So, if the personal estate is insufficient to perform the contract, and the agreement is on that account rescinded, yet the heir or devisee will, it should seem, be entitled to the personalty so far as it goes. And it has been decided, that if by reason of the complication of the testator's affairs, the purchase-money cannot be immediately paid, and the vendor for that reason rescinds the contract, yet on the coming in of the assets, the devisee of the estate contracted for may compel the executor to lay out the purchase-money in the purchase of other estates for his benefit. (n)

But if a title cannot be made, or there was not a perfect contract, or the court should think the contract ought not to be ex-

(i) 1 Kay & J. 571.

(k) 5 Sim. 102.

(l) *Milner v. Mills*, Mosely, 123; *Broome v. Monck*, 10 Ves. 597.

(m) 10 Ves. 614, 615; 1 Sugd. V. & P.

180, 9th ed. See *Lord v. Lord*, 1 Sim. 505.

(n) *Whittaker v. Whittaker*, 4 Bro. C. C. 31; *Broome v. Monck*, 10 Ves. 597; 1

Sugd. V. & P. 180, 9th ed.

ecuted, in all these cases there is no conversion of real estate into personal, in consideration of the court, upon \* which the right of the executor on the one hand, (*o*) and of the heir or devisee on the other, depends. And therefore, if the vendor dies, the estate will go to the heir-at-law of the vendor, in the same manner as if no contract had been entered into; (*p*) and the heir or devisee of the purchaser will not be entitled to the money agreed to be paid for the lands, or to have any other estate bought for him. (*q*) The court cannot speculate upon what the deceased party would or would not have done; but in these cases the inquiry must be, whether at his death a contract existed by which he was bound, and which he would be compelled to perform. (*r*) That alone can give the heir of the purchaser a right to call for the personal estate to be applied, or to the personal representative of the vendor a right to call upon his heir. (*s*)

Where a specific legacy is pledged or charged by the testator, the specific legatee is entitled to have his legacy redeemed or exonerated by the executor; and if the executor fails to perform that duty, the specific legatee is entitled to compensation to the amount of his legacy out of the general assets of the testator. (*t*)

Therefore, if a legacy be of a silver cup or a jewel, and it be in pledge at the testator's death, the legatee has a right to call upon the executor to redeem it, and to deliver it to him. (*u*)

So, in *Stewart v. Denton*, (*x*) the testator, a wine merchant, directed by his will that A. B. and C. D. should carry on his trade, and he bequeathed to them his stock of wines. \* Before

(*o*) See *ante*, 659, 660.

(*p*) *Lacon v. Mertins*, 3 Atk. 1; *Atty. Gen. v. Day*, 1 Ves. sen. 218; *Buckmaster v. Harrop*, 7 Ves. 341. See, also, *Johnson v. Le Garde*, 1 Turn. & R. 281.

(*q*) *Green v. Smith*, 1 Atk. 573; *Broome v. Monck*, 10 Ves. 597.

(*r*) See *Curre v. Bowyer*, 5 Beav. 6, note (*b*); *ante*, 660.

(*s*) 1 Sugd. V. & P. 189, 9th ed. [A testator, before his decease, gave a bond to convey real estate, and took from the obligee an obligation to take the estate and pay the purchase-money at a time stipu-

lated; the testator executed and acknowledged a deed, but died before the time arrived; when the day of payment arrived, the executor received the purchase-money and delivered the deed; such money having been received by the executor on a personal obligation belonging to the estate, he is bound to account for the same. *Loring v. Cunningham*, 9 Cush. 87; *Hauck v. Stauffer*, 31 Penn. St. 235.]

(*t*) *Knight v. Davis*, 3 My. & K. 358.

(*u*) *Swinb.* pt. 7, s. 20, pl. 18.

(*x*) 4 Dougl. 219; 8 C. 2 Chitt. Rep. 456.

the death of the testator, certain wines belonging to him arrived in a vessel at the port of London, and the vessel was reported. After his death the wines were entered. And it was held that the executors, and not the legatees, were chargeable with the duties.

In *Marshall v. Holloway*, (y) A. having a leasehold estate on which he had covenanted to erect buildings within a certain time, bequeathed it and also his personal estate, <sup>of leaseholds:</sup> subject, as to the latter, to the payment of his debts, to trustees for B. for life with several limitations over. A. died before the time expired, leaving the covenant unperformed in part. And Sir L. Shadwell V. C. held that his general personal estate was liable to the performance of the covenant. But it should seem that it was the clause which directed the debts to be paid out of the personal estate which governed this decision. (z) For, unquestionably, the general rule is, that the legatees of leasehold estates must take them *cum onere*, (a) and notwithstanding the general personal estate may remain liable to the lessor by reason of the covenants contained in the lease.

So with respect to specific legacies of shares in banking or other public companies, the legatees are, generally speaking, <sup>of shares in public companies.</sup> liable to pay the calls made subsequent to the testator's death. The cases on this subject (b) were fully reviewed by Romilly M. R. in the late case of *Armstrong v. Burnet*, (c) and a distinction drawn by the learned judge, that where the interest of the testator in the subject-matter which he professes to bequeath is complete, or where it is so treated and considered by him and by all persons connected with it, the \* future calls fall on the legatee, and not on the general personal estate. But where further payments are required to make perfect the interest which the testator professes specifically to bequeath, then the general personal estate is applicable for that purpose. (d)

(y) 5 Sim. 196.

(z) 10 Hare, 278.

(a) *Hickling v. Boyer*, 3 Mac. & G. 635; *Fitzwilliams v. Kelly*, 10 Hare, 266; 20 Beav. 432. Hence, if the demised premises are dilapidated, the executors may require an indemnity against their liability in this respect from the legatee before letting him into possession. 3 Mac. & G. 635.

(b) *Blount v. Hipkins*, 7 Sim. 43; *Jacques v. Chambers*, 2 Coll. 435; *Clive v. Clive*, Kay, 600; *Wright v. Warren*, 4 De G. & Sm. 367.

(c) 20 Beav. 424.

(d) See, also, *Moffett v. Bates*, 3 Sm. & G. 468; *Day v. Day*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 261; *Addams v. Ferick*, 26 Beav. 384; In re Box, 1 Hemm. & M. 552. The right principle appears to be that if any payments

There has already been occasion to show, that on the death of the master, the agreement for service on the part of the apprentice is at an end, generally speaking. (e) And it seems equally well established, that the executors of the master are discharged from all agreements and covenants for the instruction of the apprentice; for these are considered as personal to the testator, and determined by his death. (f) But the covenant on the part of the master for maintenance of the apprentice still continues in force; (g) and therefore the executor is liable in an action of covenant, as far as he has assets, if he neglects to maintain him. (h) By the custom of \*London, the executor shall put the apprentice to another master of the same trade. (i) As to maintenance of parish apprentices by executors, particular provisions on this head have been made by the statute 32 Geo. 3, c. 57, which has already been stated at large. (k) Where an attorney, to whom a clerk has been articled, dies before the articles expire, the court of chancery has jurisdiction to entertain a claim for a return of part of the premium, and such claim constitutes a debt payable out of the assets of the attorney. (l)

In case a person assessed to the poor rate dies before payment, it has been doubted how far the goods of the deceased in the hands of his executor or administrator are liable to

were necessary at the testator's death to constitute him a complete shareholder, they must be borne by his estate. But if he was a complete shareholder, all calls made after his death ought to be borne by the specific legatees. 1 Dr. & Sm. 261; 26 Beav. 384. But this does not apply to calls made in the lifetime of a person who is tenant for life of the whole residuary estate, (including the shares) as an entire fund. In re Box, 1 Hemm. & M. 552. See, also, the cases collected, ante, 1441, note (v).

(e) *Ante*, 814 *et seq.*

(f) *R. v. Peck*, 1 Salk. 66; *Baxter v. Burfield*, 1 Bott. P. L. pl. 696, 6th ed.; S. C. 2 Stra. 1266; *Wadsworth v. Guy*, 1 Keb. 820; S. C. 1 Sid. 216. The decision in *Walker v. Hull*, 1 Lev. 177, was *contra*; but the court denied this case in *Baxter v.*

*Burfield*, 2 Stra. 1267. But see *Cooper v. Simmons*, 7 H. & N. 707; *ante*, 816.

(g) *R. v. Peck*, 1 Salk. 66; S. C. *nomine* *R. v. Pett*, 1 Show. 405; *Baxter v. Burfield*, 1 Bott. P. L. pl. 696, 6th ed.; S. C. 2 Stra. 1266; *Soam v. Bowden*, Finch Rep. 396.

(h) But an order of magistrates, that the executor or administrator shall maintain and provide for the apprentice is bad, and may be quashed. *R. v. Pett*, 1 Show. 405; S. C. Carth. 231; 1 Salk. 66; 3 Salk. 41; 12 Mod. 27; *R. v. Chaplin*, Comberb. 324.

(i) By Lord Holt in *R. v. Peck*, 1 Salk. 66.

(k) *Ante*, 816.

(l) *Hirst v. Tolson*, 2 Mac. & G. 134. See *Winkeep v. Hughes*, L. R. 6 C. P. 85, per Willes J.

answer the same. In the case of *Stevens v. Evans*, (m) the point was discussed, but not decided, as the case was determined on its own peculiar circumstances, viz, on the ground that it was necessary to convene the administrator before the justices, before a warrant could legally issue to distrain. So that the principal point was undecided; which includes in it these particulars: 1. Where the warrant of distress is made out during the lifetime of the person assessed, whether the officers can follow the goods into the hands of the administrator or any other, without taking notice of any person as executor or administrator. 2. Where the warrant of distress is not made out till after the death of the person assessed, whether on summoning the administrator, and refusal by him, the officers can distrain the goods in the hands of such administrator. 3. Whether the administrator himself may be assessed in a succeeding rate, as for arrears; and on the assessment being confirmed at the sessions upon his appeal, whether distress may be made as of his own goods, and whether for defect of distress he may be committed. \* 4. In what course of administration such assessment shall be estimated. And if the administrator shall plead before the justices debts of a higher nature, or insufficiency of assets, whether and how far the justices are to take notice of such plea, and how or in what manner they shall determine the same. (n)

rate, where  
testator be-  
ing as-  
sessed dies  
before pay-  
ment:

It has been held in the ecclesiastical court that the obligation to pay a church-rate is a personal obligation. And that the executor of a deceased parishioner cannot be cited in re-  
spect of a church-rate due from his testator. (o)

church-  
rates.

With respect to debts which a wife contracted while single, and which remained due at the time of the marriage, it is clear that the husband is liable, as long as both parties  
are alive; (p) but this liability, which originated in the marriage,

Debts of  
husband  
and wife.

(m) 2 Burr. 1152; 1 W. Bl. 284.

(n) Burn's Justice, title Poor, vol. iv. pp. 228, 229, ed. of 1836.

(o) Williams v. George, 3 Curt. 343.

(p) But now by stat. 33 & 34 Vict. c. 93, s. 12, it is enacted, "that a husband shall not, by reason of any marriage which shall take place after this act has come into

operation [9th of August, 1870], be liable for the debts of his wife contracted before marriage, but the wife shall be liable to be sued for, and any property belonging to her for her separate use shall be liable to satisfy such debts as if she had continued unmarried." See, as to the construction of this section, *Sanger v. Sanger*, L. R.

ceases with it. And therefore upon the death of the husband before the wife, and before payment, the debts survive against her, and the executor of the husband is discharged from them. (*q*)

Again, if the husband survives the wife, he will not be individually responsible for her debts contracted before marriage, however large a fortune he may have received with her. (*r*) Nevertheless, as her administrator, he will be liable to answer for them, to the extent of her assets. (*s*)

\* On one occasion, (*t*) Sir John Leach V. C. expressed a doubt, whether the husband has a right to throw his wife's funeral expenses upon her separate estate.

With respect to debts contracted by a wife after marriage, as far as a supply of necessaries, it shall be presumed, as long as he lives, that she had the authority of the husband, as his agent, to procure them for her own use. He may consequently be compelled to pay for them, and so may his executors if he has assets. But the authority will be revoked by the death of the husband; and therefore his executor is not liable for necessaries supplied to the wife after the decease of the husband, even (according to one case) although the fact of his being dead were unknown at the time the necessaries were provided. Accordingly, in *Blades v. Free*, (*u*) a man who had for some years cohabited with a woman that passed for his wife, went abroad, leaving her and her family at his residence in this country, and died abroad. And it was held that the woman might have the same authority to bind him by her contracts for necessaries as if she had been his wife; but that his executor was not bound to pay for any goods supplied to her after his death, although before information of his death had been received. (*x*)

Work and  
labor  
with a  
view to a  
legacy.

It may be observed, that if a man performs services for the testator, as if a stock broker transacts all the money concerns of the deceased, without any view to a

11 Eq. Cas. 470. And see *ante*, 748, note (*c*).

(*g*) *Woodman v. Chapman*, 1 Campb. 189.

(*r*) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 369, 14th ed.

(*s*) *Ib.* 370; *Heard v. Stanford*, Cas. temp. Talb. 173; S. C. 3 P. Wms. 409. As to what her assets comprise, see *ante*,

846 *et seq.*, 690 *et seq.*

(*t*) *Gregory v. Lockyer*, 6 Madd. 90. See *Bertie v. Chesterfield*, 9 Mod. 31; *Wileter v. Dobie*, 2 Kay & J. 647.

(*u*) 9 B. & C. 167.

(*x*) See *accord. Smout v. Ilbery*, 10 M.

& W. 11. But see, also, 2 *Smith Leading Cas.* 395, 4th ed.

reward, but in the expectation of a legacy, he cannot set up any demand for such services against the executor or administrator. (y) Where, however, a surgeon forbore to send in his bill for \* medicines and attendance to a deceased patient in her lifetime *under the expectation* of a legacy; and on her death, finding she had left him nothing, he made a claim on her executors; it was held that he was entitled to recover, no proof having been given of any *understanding* between the parties that he was to be paid only by a legacy. (z)

In *Colegrave v. Manby*, (a) a tenant for life of a hospital lease, who was directed to lay by, out of the rents

Executor of tenant for life

(y) *Osborn v. Guy's Hospital*, 2 Stra. 728; *Le Sage v. Coussmaker*, 1 Esp. 188; [*Little v. Dawson*, 4 Dallas, 111; *Lee v. Lee*, 6 Gill & J. 309; *Livingston v. Ackreton*, 5 Cowen, 531; *Higginson v. Fabre*, 3 Desaus. 91; *Ehle v. Judson*, 24 Wend. 98, 99; *Eaton v. Benton*, 2 Hill, 576; *Roberts v. Swift*, 1 Yeates, 209; *Thompson v. Stevens*, 71 Penn. St. 161, 168; *Crane v. Baudoine*, 65 Barb. 260.]

(z) *Baxter v. Gray*, 3 M. & Gr. 771.

But see *Shallcross v. Wright*, 12 Beav. 558. [Where one party has rendered services for another, and it is manifest, from the circumstances of the case, that it was understood by both parties that compensation should be made by will, and none is made, an action lies to recover the value of such services. *Martin v. Wright*, 13 Wend. 460; *Eaton v. Benton*, 2 Hill, 576; *Quackenbush v. Ehle*, 5 Barb. 469. Where, in such a case, a legacy is actually left by the debtor to his creditor, of an amount equal to or greater than the debt, it will be presumed to be in satisfaction of it. *Eaton v. Benton*, 2 Hill, 576. But if the legacy was agreed to be of a certain amount, or a certain piece of land was to be devised, in payment for the services, the value of the land or the amount of the legacy would seem to furnish the measure of damages, in case of a breach of the contract. *Jack v. McKee*, 9 Penn. St. 235; *Bash v. Bash*, 9 Penn. St. 260. This would be true only where the action

was on the contract, and the contract one that might be enforced. But where services had been performed for a party, in consideration of an agreement, not in writing, that the employer should convey or devise land in payment for them, and the action was brought on a *quantum meruit* for the services, it was held that the value of the land was not the fixed measure of damages, although such value is competent evidence to be considered by the jury upon the question of damages. *Ham v. Goodrich*, 37 N. H. 185. It has been held that an action may be maintained against an executor on a parol contract of his testator to bequeath the plaintiff, if he continued to work for him, a certain sum in his will, in addition to the usual wages allowed to work hands. *Bell v. Hewitt*, 24 Ind. 280. A man turned away his wife and daughter without any provision for their support. After many years he solicited his daughter to come and live with him; and promised by letter, that on her doing so she should heir his estate. She accepted his invitation. Her father subsequently drove her away, and, upon his death, bequeathed all his estate to others. The daughter sued the executors, under her father's written promise, and was decreed to be entitled to the estate. *Gary v. James*, 4 Desaus. 185. See *Jacobson v. Le Grange*, 3 John. 199; *Patterson v. Patterson*, 13 John. 379.]

(a) 6 Madd. 72; S. C. 2 Russ. 238.



who neglects to re-new lease. and profits, for the purpose of paying the fine on renewal, had neglected to renew, and the lease having been renewed by the remainder-man, after his death, a reference on a bill against his executrix was made, to ascertain what was a reasonable sum to be paid for the renewal; and the same was ordered to be paid by the executrix.

Executors must be admitted to copyhold and pay fines.

It was once held that executors continued the estate which their testator had in a copyhold, and, therefore, that they needed no admission. But it is now settled that they must be regularly admitted, and pay their fines. (b)

If a bill of exceptions be sealed by a judge, and he dies, a *scire facias* lies against his executors or administrators to certify it. (c) So if the person who ought to certify a record, as a justice of the peace, &c. who hath taken a recognizance, or a judge of *nisi prius* who hath taken a verdict, or a coroner who hath taken an inquest, &c. happen to die, having such a record in his custody, it seems that a *certiorari* may be directed to his executor or administrator to certify it. (d)

As a court of equity will not, *inter vivos*, compel a party to complete his gift, so it will not compel the executor to \*complete the gift of the testator. Therefore an act of bounty which has not been perfected by the testator is of no avail against his executor. (e)

Executor not compellable to complete the gift of testator.

If a person, who has delivered a deed as an escrow, to be handed over to the party for whose use it is made, upon the performance of some condition, happen to die before the performance of the condition, and the condition be after-

Liability of executor of a man who has

(b) Bath v. Abney, 1 Burr. 206; S. C. My. & Cr. 637; Ward v. Audland, 8 Beav. 201; Cox v. Barnard, 8 Hare, 310; Bridge v. Bridge, 16 Beav. 315; Weale v. Ollive, 17 Beav. 252; Beech v. Keep, 18 Beav. 285; [Shurtleff v. Francis, 118 Mass. 154.]

(c) 2 Inst. 428.

(d) 2 Hawk. bk. 2, c. 27, s. 39.

(e) Hooper v. Goodwin, 1 Swanst. 485; Cotteen v. Missing, 1 Madd. 176; Meek v. Kettlewell, 1 Phill. C. C. 342; Callaghan v. Callaghan, 8 Cl. & Fin. 374; Searle v. Law, 15 Sim. 95; Dillon v. Coppin, 4

An executor may be compelled to execute an agreement by the testator to grant an annuity. Nield v. Smith, 14 Ves. 491.

wards performed, the deed is available notwithstanding the death of him that made it. (*f*)

It may here be mentioned that if a testator has given a promissory note in this form, "I promise for myself and my executors to pay A. B. or his executors, one year after my death, 300*l.*, with legal interest," and no proof of the consideration can be given, the note bears interest from its date, and not merely from the testator's death; for, in the absence of all particular proof, it must be presumed that the note was given for value. (*g*)

delivered a deed as an escrow.

A note made payable with interest by executors at a certain period from the testator's death, bears interest from the date.

If a man enters into a continuing guaranty and dies, his executor, it has been thought, is not liable upon it for advances made after the testator's death, which operates as a revocation. (*h*)

Executor not liable on a continuing guaranty of testator.

(*f*) By Lord Ellenborough in *Copeland v. Stephens*, 1 B. & Ald. 606, where executor appears to be printed by mistake for *escrow*.

(*g*) *Roffey v. Greenwell*, 10 Ad. & El. 222; S. C. 2 Perr. & D. 365.

(*h*) *Smith's Comm. L.* 425, 4th ed. But see, *contra*, *Bradbury v. Morgan*, 1 H. & C. 249.

## \* CHAPTER THE SECOND.

OF THE LIABILITY OF AN EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR WITH  
RESPECT TO HIS OWN ACTS.

## SECTION I.

*Of the Liability of an Executor or Administrator on his own  
Contracts.*

IN this section it is proposed to investigate, First. The liability of an executor or administrator, *as such*, in respect of his own contracts *as executor* or administrator. Secondly. The personal responsibility of the executor or administrator on his own contracts. (a)

1st. As to the liability of the executor, not personally, but out of the assets of the testator. It seems to have been once considered, that wherever an action was brought against an executor or administrator, on promises laid to have been made by him after the death of the testator or intestate, he was chargeable in his own right, and not in his representative capacity. (a<sup>1</sup>) The more modern authorities have, however, established, that in several instances the executor may be sued, *as executor*, on a promise made by him as executor, and that a declaration founded on such a promise will charge the defendant no further than a declaration on a promise of the testator. (a<sup>2</sup>)

Thus, in *Dowse v. Coxe*, (b) the declaration stated that a cause

(a) [See *Forbes v. Perrie*, 1 Harr. & J. 109.]

(a<sup>1</sup>) See *Trewinian v. Howell*, Cro. Eliz. 91; *Hawkes v. Saunders*, Cowp. 289; *Jennings v. Newman*, 4 T. R. 348; *Greening v. Sheffield*, Minor (Ala.), 276; *Adams v. Adams*, 16 Vt. 228; *Thomas J. in Luscomb v. Ballard*, 5 Gray, 405; *Fitzhugh v. Fitzhugh*, 11 Grattan, 300.]

(a<sup>2</sup>) [*Piper v. Goodwin*, 23 Maine, 251. One joint administrator is solely liable for the debts contracted by him in the settlement of the estate. Such debts do not create a liability under the bond. *Taylor v. Mygatt*, 26 Conn. 184.]

(b) 3 Bing. 20; S. C. 10 Moore, 272.

depending in chancery, in which Thomas Biddle was a party, was referred to arbitration, and that it was one \* of the terms of submission that in case either of the parties should die, the death was not to abate the reference; that Thomas Biddle died before the making of the award; that the arbitrator awarded that the executor should pay the plaintiff 225*l.* out of the assets of Thomas Biddle; and that, being so liable, the defendant, executor as aforesaid, *promised to pay*. And the court of C. B. held that the executor was not charged thereby personally, but as executor only, and that the judgment must be *de bonis testatoris*. (c)

So, in *Powell v. Graham*, (d) one count of the declaration stated a promise by the testator in his lifetime, that, in consideration the plaintiff would enter into his service as a nurse and housekeeper, and would continue to serve him till his death, his executor should, after his decease, pay the plaintiff 20*l.*, and then averred the defendant's liability as executor, and that in consideration thereof *the defendant promised to pay* the plaintiff that sum, whenever he, the defendant, as executor, should be requested so to do. And the court of C. B. held, that, upon this count, the defendant was not liable individually, but as executor only. And in the same case the court held, and it is now fully settled, that a count averring an account stated between the plaintiff and the defendant as executor, and that in consideration thereof *the defendant as executor promised to pay* the balance, does not charge him personally; but he may plead *plene administravit*, and the whole judgment which can be given in favor of the plaintiff is *de bonis testatoris*. (e) And it makes no difference whether the account be averred to have been stated of money due from the testator to the plaintiff, (f) or of money due from the defendant *as executor* to the plaintiff. (g)

\* So it should seem that a count averring that the defendant, *as executor*, was indebted to the plaintiff for so much money, paid

(c) This judgment was reversed in *K. Ellis v. Bowen*, Forrest Ex. Rep. 98. B., but on a different ground, the court of error declining to give any opinion on this point. 6 B. & C. 255. This is the common mode of declaring against executors to save the statute of limitations. 1 H. Bl. 105.

(d) 7 Taunt. 581; S. C. 1 B. Moore, 305.

(e) *Ashby v. Ashby*, 7 B. & C. 444; S. C. 1 Mann. & Ry. 180.

(f) *Secar v. Atkinson*, 1 H. Bl. 102;

VOL. III.

14

(g) *Powell v. Graham*, 7 Taunt. 580; *Ashby v. Ashby*, 7 B. & C. 444. But see *Rose v. Bowler*, 1 H. Bl. 108; 2 Saund. 117 *h*, note to *Coryton v. Lithebye*.

[1772] [1773]

by the plaintiff to the use of the defendant, *as executor*, and that in consideration thereof the defendant, *as executor*, *promised to pay*, charges the defendant in his representative character only, and that he may plead *plene administravit* to it, and that the judgment ought to be *de bonis testatoris*. (*h*) For instance, suppose two persons are jointly bound as sureties, and the one dies, and the survivor is sued and obliged to pay the whole debt. In such case, if the deceased had been living, the survivor might have sued him for contribution in an action for money paid; and it should therefore seem that he is entitled to sue the executor of the deceased for money paid to his use as executor. (*i*) Again, a plaintiff may in many cases have an advantage in proceeding against the assets rather than against the executor personally; the executor in his individual capacity may be insolvent; in his character of executor he may have assets adequate to answer any claim; and when the money is paid to his use as executor, justice seems to require that the person who has made the payment should have the liberty of looking to the fund which the executor has in that character. (*k*)

But a count alleging that the defendant, *as executor*, was \* indebted to the plaintiff for so much money *lent* by the plaintiff to the defendant, *as executor*, and that the defendant, in consideration thereof, *as executor*, *promised to pay*, charges him personally, and he cannot plead *plene administravit*, and the only possible judgment is *de bonis propriis*. (*l*)

And so it is of a count which charges that the defendant, *as*

(*h*) *Ashby v. Ashby*, 7 B. & C. 448, 449, 451, 452. This point was conceded by the counsel and the court in *Corner v. Shew*, 3 M. & W. 350.

(*i*) *Ashby v. Ashby*, 7 B. & C. 449, 451, 452, by Bayley J. and Littledale J. See, also, *Batard v. Hawes*, 2 El. & Bl. 287, 298, where these *dicta* were regarded as strong authority for holding, that if one of several co-contractors be compelled by suit to pay the whole debt, he may sue the executors of another of them, *who has died before payment* for contribution.

(*k*) 7 B. & C. 449. But it must not be understood that one who has paid off a debt of a testator, or advanced money to an executor to enable him to do so, can

follow the assets into the hands of another to whom the executor has aliened them. *Haynes v. Forshaw*, 11 Hare, 104, *ante*, 932, note (*e*).

(*l*) *Rose v. Bowler*, 1 H. Bl. 108; *Powell v. Graham*, 7 Taunt. 586. [Executors and administrators cannot bind the estate by their own contracts. On contracts made by them for necessary matters connected with the estate, they are personally liable. *Miller v. Williamson*, 5 Md. 219; *Pinkney v. Singleton*, 2 Hill (N. Y.) 343; *Sims v. Stilwell*, 4 Miss. (How.) 176; *Nehbe v. Price*, 2 Nott & McC. 328; *Jones v. Jenkins*, 2 McCord, 494; *M'Eldery v. M'Kenzie*, 2 Porter (Ala.), 33; *Underwood v. Millegan*, 8 Ark. 254.]

*executor*, was indebted to the plaintiff *for money had and received* by the defendant *as executor*, for the use of the plaintiff, and that in consideration thereof, the defendant, *as executor*, *promised to pay*; for to such a count *plene administravit* cannot be pleaded, and the judgment on it must be *de bonis propriis*. (m) But in *Ashby v. Ashby*, (n) Lord Tenterden said, that although he felt himself bound by the authorities on the point, yet if the matter were quite new, it might, perhaps, be as well to hold that a plaintiff might elect to treat the receipt of the money as an act done by the executor in his character of executor, and take his chance whether he would get paid out of the assets or not, and that if he elected so to treat it, then he must show that the money came into the defendant's hands because he was executor. And Bayley J. concurred in this opinion, and put the following case: "Suppose a bill payable to the testator were remitted from a foreign country, half the amount applicable to the personal use of the testator, and the other half to be paid over by him to some other person. Before the bill arrives, the testator dies, and his executor receives the money. It is possible that he may not have received advice as to the mode in which it is to be applied, until after he has applied it in the ordinary course of administration. He may be insolvent in his individual capacity; \* and it would be hard that the party, under such circumstances, should not have his election to be paid out of the funds of the testator." The learned judge, however, proceeded to observe, that the authorities were so strong that he felt himself bound by them, although his reason was not convinced. (o)

(m) *Rose v. Bowler*, 1 H. Bl. 108; *Jennings v. Newman*, 4 T. R. 347; *Bridgen v. Parkes*, 2 Bos. & Pull. 424; *Powell v. Graham*, 7 Taunt. 585, 586; *Ashby v. Ashby*, 7 B. & C. 444; S. C. 1 Mann. & Ry. 180.

(n) 7 B. & C. 448.

(o) 7 B. & C. 450. But Littledale J. expressed his opinion that if the case were perfectly new, the defendant ought to be held personally liable upon the count in question, and observed that where an executor receives money to the use of a particular individual, it operates as a specific appropriation of that money belonging to the party, and he, in his individual capacity, must be liable for the money so re-

ceived, it having nothing to do with the accounts of the testator. 7 B. & C. 452, 453; [*Cronan v. Cotting*, 99 Mass. 334, 336.] Perhaps an illustration of this view may be found in *Churchill v. Bertrand*, 3 Q. B. 568, where an intestate had granted an annuity to the plaintiff, and, after his death, his administratrix procured it to be set aside for a defect in the memorial; and it was held that the consideration money for the annuity could not be recovered back as money had and received by the intestate for the use of the plaintiff. [A debtor transferred to the administratrix of the estate of his creditor acceptances of a third person, with directions to

Again, a count upon a promise by the defendant, *as executor*, for *use and occupation* after the death of the testator, has been held to charge the defendant personally, and not in his character of executor. (*p*) So a count alleging that the defendant, *as executor*, was indebted to the plaintiff for *goods sold and delivered* by the plaintiff to the defendant, *as executor*, at his request, or for *work done* and materials for the same used and provided by the plaintiff for the defendant, *as executor*, at his request, and that the defendant, *as executor*, promised to pay, charges the defendant in his personal and not in his representative character; for such a claim must necessarily be for debts due from the defendant in his own right, as no goods can be sold to or work performed for another in his representative character. (*q*) The common count *for interest* charges the executor personally; \*for it alleges a forbearance *at his request*. But a count charging that the defendant is indebted *as executor* on a contract by the testator to pay interest as long as the debt should be forborne, charges him as executor only. (*r*)

In actions like those above mentioned, which are brought against an executor, in the character of executor, to recover the demand out of the testator's estate, a promise by the executor is a mere *nudum pactum*, if there were no assets. (*s*) But it is not necessary to aver in the declaration that the defendant had assets. (*t*)

apply the proceeds, or so much thereof as might be necessary, to discharge his indebtedness to the deceased. The administratrix brought suit on the acceptances in her representative capacity, recovered judgment, and out of the proceeds of the execution applied to the estate of the deceased a sum larger than was actually due from the debtor. It was held that she was responsible to the debtor in an action against her individually for the balance so misapplied, as money received by the defendant to the plaintiff's use. *Cronan v. Cotting*, 99 Mass. 334, 336. *Colt J.* said, in this case, "The fact that she described herself as administratrix in a suit upon these securities cannot affect the relation of these parties. She could only bind herself in this transaction. She had no power to bind the estate she represented.

The balance of the money collected, after paying the debt due from the plaintiff, was not assets of the estate in her hands; and the defendant is not liable for such balance in her representative capacity."

(*p*) *Wigley v. Ashton*, 3 B. & Ald. 101. But see *Atkins v. Humphrey*, 2 C. B. 654; *post*, pt. v. bk. II. ch. 1.

(*q*) *Corner v. Shew*, 3 M. & W. 350; [*Thomas J. in Luscomb v. Ballard*, 5 Gray, 405.] See *post*, 1787 *et seq.*, as to charging an executor for the expenses of the funeral.

(*r*) *Bignell v. Harpur*, 4 Ex. 773.

(*s*) 1 Saund. 210, c. 211, note (1) to *Forth v. Stanton*; *Pearson v. Henry*, 5 T. R. 8; *Rann v. Hughes*, 7 T. R. 350, note (*a*).

(*t*) *Powell v. Graham*, 7 Taunt. 580; *S. C.* 1 B. Moore, 305; *Dowse v. Coxe*, 3

2dly. It is now proposed to investigate the personal responsibility of an executor or administrator, arising from his own contracts.

2. Of the personal liability of an executor on his own promise :

A promise by an executor or administrator to pay a debt of the testator, or to answer damages, will not make him personally liable, unless there be a sufficient consideration to support the promise. For a bare promise by the executor does not make him liable out of his own estate, but he is still chargeable only as executor, and to the extent of the assets in his hands, in the same manner as he would have been had no such promise been made. (u) And by the statute of frauds the executor or administrator will not be liable unless the promise is in writing. It is clear, however, that although the promise be in writing, it is of no more effect since the statute than before, unless it be by deed, or there be a good consideration for it. (x) Hence, since

Bing. 20; S. C. 1 B. Moore, 272. See, also, Pinchon's case, 9 Co. 90 b; [Templeton v. Bascom, 33 Vt. 132. In this case it was decided that where the defendant, being sole heir to an estate, promised the plaintiffs, who had a valid and an undisputed claim against the estate, that if they would take no steps to enforce such claim he would pay it very soon, or upon request, the promise was valid, and not within the statute of frauds, not being founded upon the consideration of the debt of the deceased, but upon forbearance.]

(u) Reech v. Kennegal, 1 Ves. sen. 126; [Byrd v. Holloway, 6 Sm. & M. 199; Hester v. Wesson, 6 Ala. 415; M'Elwee v. Story, 1 Rich. (S. Car.) 9; Taliaferro v. Robb, 2 Coll. 258.]

(x) [Hester v. Wesson, 6 Ala. 415; Walker v. Patterson, 36 Maine, 273; Winthrop v. Jarvis, 8 La. Ann. 434; Beatty v. Tete, 9 La. Ann. 130; Bank of Troy v. Topping, 9 Wend. 273; Mosely v. Taylor, 4 Dana, 542; Sidle v. Anderson, 45 Penn. St. 464; Ciples v. Alexander, 2 Treadw. (S. Car.) Const. 767; Davis v. French, 20 Maine, 21; Douglas v. Fraser, 2 McCord Ch. 105; Taliaferro v. Robb, 2 Call, 258. But where an administrator gives his own obligation for a claim

against the estate, it is held to be an admission of assets. Thompson v. Maugh, 3 Iowa, 342. And where the promise of the administrator is in consideration of assets, it will support a judgment *de bonis testatoris*. Faxon v. Dyson, 1 Cranch C. C. 441; Dixon v. Ramsay, 1 Cranch C. C. 472. See Bank of Troy v. Topping, 13 Wend. 557. If an executor makes a written contract, founded upon a sufficient consideration, to pay a debt due from his testator, an action thereon may be maintained against him personally, although the contract was signed in his representative capacity. Walker v. Patterson, 36 Maine, 273; Ellis v. Merriman, 5 B. Mon. 296; Carter v. Thomas, 3 Ind. 213. In Davis v. French, 20 Maine, 21, 23, Shepley J. said: "The true doctrine upon this subject appears to be that where the cause of action existed against the deceased, the executor or administrator may make himself personally liable, by a written promise, founded upon a sufficient consideration. And in such case the action should be brought against him in his own right, if the plaintiff would have judgment against him in preference to one against the estate. A promise from the executor or administrator, as such, to pay a debt due from the deceased, may be alleged in



\* the statute, there are two things necessary for the validity of the promise of the executor or administrator to pay the debt of the testator, or answer damages, out of his own estate: 1st, the common law requires that there should be a sufficient consideration to support the promise; 2d, the statute adds a still further requisite, that the promise should be in writing. (y) It is therefore expedient to examine, in the first place, what is a valid consideration for a promise by an executor or administrator to charge him *de bonis propriis*; and then to inquire what is a reduction of the promise into writing, sufficient to satisfy the statute of frauds.

Before entering upon this inquiry, it may be remarked, that a promise by an *administrator*, by word of mouth, made *before* administration granted, may, under certain circumstances, be binding upon him afterwards. Thus, in *Tomlinson v. Gill*, (z) a person promised the widow of an intestate, that if she would permit him to be joined in the letters of administration, he would make good any deficiency of assets to discharge the intestate's debts. And Lord Hardwicke held that this promise was not within the statute of frauds, because the party promising was not administrator at the time of making the promise; and it was no answer to say that he was administrator afterwards. (a) His lordship further held that this was an engagement which could be made

an action brought against him as executor or administrator, and in such case the judgment must be *de bonis testatoris*. But the executor or administrator cannot create a debt against the deceased. And it is immaterial how clearly the intent to do so may be expressed; for having no power to bind the estate he only binds himself by such a contract. And there can, therefore, be no judgment *de bonis testatoris*, and the action should be brought declaring against him in his own right. *Barry v. Rush*, 1 T. R. 691; *Sumner v. Williams*, 8 Mass. 199; *Myer v. Cole*, 12 John. 349." The statute has made no alteration in the pleading, and consequently it does not appear upon the declaration whether there was a promise in writing or not. It is a matter of evidence only. *Anon.* 2 Salk. 519; *Williams v. Leper*, 3 Burr. 1890, by Yates J.

(y) *Rann v. Hughes*, 4 Bro. P. C. 27,

Toml. ed.; S. C. 7 T. R. 350, note (a); *Hawkes v. Saunders*, Cowp. 289; *Philpot v. Briant*, 4 Bing. 717; S. C. 1 M. & P. 754; [*Simpson v. Patten*, 4 John. 422; *Jackson v. Raynor*, 12 John. 291; *Nelson v. Boynton*, 3 Met. 396; *Loomis v. Newhall*, 15 Pick. 166; *Stone v. Symmes*, 18 Pick. 467; *Dodge v. Burdell*, 13 Conn. 170; *Elliott v. Giese*, 7 Harr. & J. 457; *Leonard v. Vredenburg*, 8 John. 29; *Bailey v. Freeman*, 4 John. 280; *Clark v. Small*, 6 Yerger, 418; *Cobb v. Page*, 17 Penn. St. 469; 1 Chitty Contr. (11th Am. ed.) 740, and notes (n<sup>5</sup>) and (n<sup>6</sup>); *Robinson v. Lane*, 14 Sm. & M. 161.] But see *Herbert v. Powis*, 1 Bro. P. C. 355, Toml. ed.

(z) *Ambl.* 330.

(a) See *ante*, 405, 406, 629, 630, as to the difference between the relation of probate and letters of administration to the death of the testator and intestate.

good only in a court of equity; because it was not made to the creditors, who could, therefore, claim only through the widow; but that they were entitled in equity to the performance of the promise made to her; because it was to be considered there as made to her in trust for them. (b)

\* 1st. What is a valid consideration. If a creditor, at the request of an executor, *forbears* to sue him, that is considered a sufficient consideration to charge him *de bonis propriis*, whether he has assets or not at the time of the promise; and therefore it is not necessary to aver in the declaration that he had assets. As if A., to whom the testator was indebted, comes to the executor, and says that he intends to sue him for the debt, whereupon the executor promises, in consideration that the plaintiff will forbear him for a reasonable time, to pay him, and A. accordingly forbears to sue him for a reasonable time, that is a good consideration to charge the defendant, in an action upon the case, out of his own estate, without assets; for by this promise it is intended as well to forbear to sue the executor, as to forbear the debt; and a forbearance of a suit is a good consideration, without assets at the time of the promise. (c) So

what is a sufficient consideration for his promise:

(b) This case was recognized by Lord Northington in *Griffith v. Sheffield*, 1 Eden, 77; and by Sir W. Grant in *Gregory v. Williams*, 3 Meriv. 590. A promise, however, by a party who is neither the executor nor administrator, to pay a debt of a deceased person, is merely *nudum pactum*; and even if such a party should give his promissory note to the creditor for the debt, without any other consideration for making it, the payment of the note cannot be enforced by the payee, if at the time of the making thereof there was no personal representative of the debtor. *Nelson v. Serle*, 4 M. & W. 795, overruling *Serle v. Waterworth*, *Ib.* 9; *ante*, 262, note (g). If, indeed, the note be made payable at a future date, and the maker be entitled to take out administration, as being the widow or next of kin of the debtor, perhaps the creditor might enforce the note, because the effect of giving it is to preclude the payee, during its currency, from suing the maker, in case the latter should take out administration. 4 M. &

W. 9. Where a widow gave a promissory note "for value received by my late husband," it was held that the note was valid on the face of it. *Ridout v. Bristow*, 1 Cr. & Jerv. 231, *post*, 1781, note (o). [Where a party, who was sole heir to an estate, promised certain creditors, who had a valid claim against the estate, that if they would not attempt to enforce such claim he would pay it very soon, or upon request, the promise was held valid and not within the statute of frauds, as not being founded upon the consideration of the debt of the deceased, but upon forbearance. *Templeton v. Bascom*, 33 Vt. 132. But see *ante*, 1776, 1777, and cases in note (y).]

(c) [*Templeton v. Bascom*, 33 Vt. 132;] *Johnson v. Whitecott*, 1 Roll. Abr. 24, tit. Action sur Case, V. pl. 33, upon a demurrer, where the defendant pleaded that he had no assets when the promise was made. It is said in *Bane's case*, 9 Co. 94 a, that if there be no assets, it shall be given in evidence; but this opinion has

if a man declares upon a promise against an administrator, that the intestate was \*indebted to him in 10*l.* by bond, and died, and the defendant being his administrator, in consideration of the premises, and that the plaintiff *would spare him* till such a time after, promised to pay him the debt; and avers that he spared him till the time, and the defendant had not paid him, &c. though he did not say that he would spare him *the debt*, or to *sue him*, yet it shall be so intended, and therefore the consideration is good. (d) So it was said by Hale C. J. that though a bare accounting by the executor with a creditor of his testator will not bind the executor to pay *de bonis propriis*, yet a promise in consideration of forbearance will. (e) Also, where the plaintiff having a debt owing to him from the testator on a simple contract, the executor, in consideration the plaintiff would forbear to sue him until such a time, promised to pay, and the plaintiff averred that he did forbear accordingly, this is a good promise; but if the *heir* had promised, on forbearance of the suit, to pay this debt, no *assumpsit* would have been against him, because without consideration; for the heir is not chargeable to any debt without specialty. (f) So where in *assumpsit* the plaintiff declared that J. S. devised a legacy to him, and made the defendant executor, and the plaintiff intending to sue him for the legacy, the defendant, in consideration of forbearance, promised to pay him; the defendant pleaded divers bonds and judgments, and no assets *ultra*; upon which the plaintiff demurred, and had judgment without argument; for it was not material whether he had assets or not; for he was charged upon his own promise, in consideration of forbearance; and a forbearance of a suit for a legacy was a sufficient consideration; although it was said, that if it had appeared by the declaration that the plaintiff had no cause of action, the forbearance would not be sufficient. (g) \*It is true that it is now settled, that no action at law lies for a legacy, (h) but in this case the forbearance might

been overruled since. See the cases in the text, *supra*. [Mosely v. Taylor, 4 Dana, 542.]

(d) Gardener v. Fenner, 1 Roll. Abr. 15, tit. Action sur Case, S. pl. 3; Chambers v. Leversage, Cro. Eliz. 644.

(e) Hawes v. Smith, 2 Lev. 122.

(f) Fish v. Richardson, Yelv. 55, 56; S. C. Cro. Jac. 47.

(g) Davis v. Reyner, 2 Lev. 3; S. C. *nomine* Davis v. Wright, 1 Ventr. 120; 2 Keb. 758.

(h) Deeks v. Strutt, 5 T. R. 690. See *infra*, pt. v. bk. II. ch. I. [p. 1931, note (k<sup>1</sup>); 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 113, note (h), from which it appears that an action at law lies for a legacy in many of the American States.]

[1779] [1780]

have been to sue in chancery, or, formerly, in the ecclesiastical court, for the legacy, and then the consideration may, perhaps, be a good one. (i) So if A. together with B. is bound to C. for the proper debt of B., and A. pays the money, and B. dies and makes D. his executor, and D., in consideration that A. will forbear to sue him until such a time, promises to pay him, this is sufficient consideration to support the promise. (k) So if an executor be indebted to J. S. in 100*l.*, who demands the money, the executor is chargeable only in respect of assets, and not otherwise; but if he promises to pay the debt *at a future day*, it becomes *his own debt*, and to be satisfied out of *his own estate*. (l) So B. having died indebted to G. for work and labor done, his executors signed the following memorandum on the back of G.'s account: "Mr. G. having consented to wait for the payment of the within account, we, as the executors of B., engage to pay Mr. G. interest for the same, at 5*l.* per cent., until the same is settled." And it was held that the executors were personally liable to pay the debt and interest. (m)

Accordingly, in a modern case, (n) two executors gave a promissory note to the plaintiff, in the following words, "*As executors to the late T. T., we severally and jointly promise to pay to N. C. the sum of 200*l.* on demand, with lawful interest for the same.*" And the court of C. B. held that they were personally liable on the instrument, upon the ground that the promise, from the circumstance of interest \* being added, necessarily imported a pay-

(i) See 2 Saund. 137 *d*, note to Barber v. Fox.

(k) Scott v. Stevens, 1 Sid. 89.

(l) Goring v. Goring, Yelv. 11. See Reech v. Kennegal, 1 Ves. sen. 126.

(m) Brady v. Heath, 3 Sim. 543.

(n) Childs v. Monins, 2 Brod. & Bing. 460; S. C. 5 Moore, 281. See, also, Barnard v. Pumfrett, 5 My. & Cr. 71; Lucas v. Williams, 3 Giff. 151. [In the case of Bank of Troy v. Topping, 9 Wend. 273, it was decided that administrators who have given a note for the debt of their intestate cannot be made personally responsible for its payment, unless it can be shown that they have assets, or that forbearance was the consideration of the note. That where it is not proved that

forbearance was the consideration of the note, the court will not infer such consideration from the mere fact that the note is payable at sixty days after date. This case came before the same court again, and appears reported in 13 Wend. 557. In this last hearing of the case it was determined that when a promissory note is given by an executor or administrator, it is *prima facie* evidence of assets, because they are the legal consideration upon which the promise ought to be, and is presumed to be, founded; it is, however, but *prima facie* evidence between the original parties, and the defendant may show that in fact there was a deficiency of assets, and of course no consideration to support the note.]

ment at a future day, and an executor promising to pay a debt at a future day makes the debt his own. (o)

Again, where the plaintiff declared in *assumpsit* that the defendant's testator was indebted to A., who, after the testator's death, assigned the debt to the plaintiff, and appointed him to receive it to his own use, and that the defendant, in consideration that the plaintiff would accept the defendant as his debtor, promised to pay it to the plaintiff; it was held that this was not a sufficient consideration to support the promise, so as to charge the defendant *de bonis propriis*. (p) But if the promise had been in consideration of forbearance by such assignee of the debt to sue the executor or administrator, that would have been sufficient; (q) \*for it is sufficient, in the case of any other debtor, whom the assignee of the debt forbears, at his request, to sue. (r)

So where the plaintiff declared in *assumpsit* that the husband of the defendant was indebted to the plaintiff in 50*l.* for beer, and died intestate, and administration was committed to the defendant, and that afterwards she, in consideration that the plaintiff would deliver to her six barrels of beer, promised to pay to the plaintiff, as well the 50*l.* due by the intestate as for the six barrels delivered to herself, and that he thereupon delivered the six barrels; it was held that the action was well brought against her on her own

(o) [Austin v. Monroe, 47 N. Y. 360.] See, also, Ridout v. Bristow, 1 Cr. & Jerv. 231, where a widow had given a promissory note for "value received by my late husband;" and it was held that the note was valid on the face of it; and Bayley J. said: "If an administratrix takes upon herself to give a security, which may have the effect of inducing forbearance, and which purports to bind her individually, is it competent for her to say, you must prove assets? To my mind, the act of giving such a security supersedes the necessity of an investigation as to there being assets. It seems to me that the words 'value received by my late husband,' do not make the proof of assets necessary; and I go still farther and say that it was not competent for her to show that there were no assets." But where an executrix gave an acceptance for a debt, due from her testator, taking an engagement from the drawer to renew the bill from time to

time until sufficient effects were received from the estate of the testator, it was held that this meant sufficient effects in the ordinary course of administration; and that she had not precluded herself from first applying assets to pay 3,000*l.* to trustees for her own use, in discharge of a bond given by her husband before marriage to that effect, before she paid the acceptance. Bowerbank v. Monteiro, 4 Taunt. 844. Where a bill is indorsed to certain persons as executors, and they again indorse it, they become personally liable. Per Buller J. King v. Thom, 1 T. R. 489. See, also, as to signature in representative character, Alexander v. Sizer, L. R. 4 Ex. 102.

(p) Forth v. Stanton, 1 Saund. 210.

(q) Pitt v. Bridgwater, 1 Roll. Abr. 20, pl. 11; S. C. Hardr. 74; Russel v. Haddock, 1 Lev. 188; 1 Saund. 210, note (1).

(r) Reynolds v. Prosser, Hardr. 71; Obble v. Dittlesfield, 1 Ventr. 153; 1 Saund. 210, note (1).

*assumpsit*, and that the judgment should be for both debts *de bonis propriis*. (s)

So where an attorney delivered up deeds to an executor, which he was not obliged to do till his bill was paid, and these deeds were of great use to the executor in several suits which were then carrying on ; it was held that this was a sufficient consideration to make the executor liable to the attorney's whole demand, whether there were assets or not. (t)

It should seem that the having assets is a good consideration for a promise by an executor or administrator to pay a debt of the deceased, or to answer damages out of the executor's own estate. Thus, in *Reech v. Kennegal*, (u) Lord Hardwicke observed, "At law, if an executor promises to pay the debt of his testator, a consideration must be alleged ; *as of assets to come to his hands* ; or of forbearance ; or if an admission of assets is implied by the promise ; otherwise it will be but *nudum pactum*, and not personally binding upon the executor. (u<sup>1</sup>) So it was held in *Atkins v. Hill* (x) and in *Hawkes v. Saunders*, (y) that the circumstance of the executor having assets sufficient to pay all the debts and \*legacies, was a sufficient consideration to support a promise to pay a legacy, so as to render the executor individually liable on that promise in an action at law. (z) And although the doctrine of these cases, as far as the liability of an executor to be sued at law for a legacy, has been since exploded, (a) yet it should seem that their authority, with respect to the sufficiency of the consideration in question to support a promise to pay debts, remains unimpeached. The consequence is, that if an executor or administrator promises, in writing, that, in consideration of having assets, he will pay a particular debt of the testator or intestate, he may be sued on this promise in his individual capacity, and the judgment against him will be *de bonis propriis*. (b)

(s) *Wheeler v. Collier*, Cro. Eliz. 406.

C. 472 ; *Greening v. Brown*, Minor (Ala.),

(t) *Hamilton v. Inledon*, 4 Bro. P. C. 4 Toml. ed. [See *Hershaw v. Whitaker*, 1 Brev. (S. Car.) 9 ; 1 *Chitty Contr.* (11th Am. ed.) 740, 750, note (g), 756, note (e<sup>1</sup>), 757 ; *Nelson v. Boynton*, 3 Met. 396 ; *Brightman v. Hicks*, 108 Mass. 246, 247, and cases cited.]

553 ; *Sleighter v. Harrington*, 2 Taylor (N. Car.), 249.]

(x) Cowp. 284.

(y) Cowp. 289.

(z) See, also, accord. *Barnard v. Pumfrett*, 5 My. & Cr. 71, per Lord Cottenham.

(a) See *infra*, pt. v. bk. II. ch. I.

(u) 1 Ves. sen. 126.

(u<sup>1</sup>) [See *Faxon v. Dyson*, 1 Cranch C. 441 ; *Dixon v. Ramsey*, 1 Cranch C.

(b) *Trewinian v. Howell*, Cro. Eliz. 91. But see *Rann v. Hughes*, 7 T. R. 350,

It may here be observed, that in cases alike the above mentioned, where the nature of the debt is such as necessarily to make the defendant liable personally, the judgment will be *de bonis propriis*, although he be charged as promising *as executor*. (c)

It remains to consider, 2dly, What is a sufficient reduction into writing of the promise of an executor or administrator. The fourth section of the statute of frauds (29 Car, 2, c. 3), enacts (*inter alia*), "that no action should be brought, whereby to charge any executor or administrator, upon any special promise to answer damages out of his own estate, or whereby to charge the defendant, upon any special promise to answer for the debt, default, or miscarriage of another person, &c. &c. unless the *agreement* upon which such action shall be brought, or some memorandum or note thereof, shall be *in writing* and *signed* by the party to be \*charged therewith, or some other person thereunto by him lawfully authorized."

The word "agreement" used in this section means the *consideration* of the promise; (d) and, therefore, it was held in the case of *Wain v. Warlters*, (e) that the *consideration* of the promise, as well as the promise itself, must be in writing, otherwise it is void. This doctrine was very much doubted in several subsequent cases, but has been fully established by subsequent decisions. (f) It is, however, sufficient, if the consideration can be gathered from the whole tenor of the writing; and it is not necessary that it should be stated on the face of it in express terms. (g)

note (a); [*Taliaferro v. Robb*, 2 Call, 258; *Templeton v. Bascom*, 33 Vt. 132. But where executors gave bond to pay, out of the assets, the balance due in settling the accounts of the estate, they were held not responsible beyond the assets which came into their hands. *Allen v. Gaffins*, 8 Watts, 397.]

(c) *Powell v. Graham*, 7 Taunt. 585; *Wigley v. Ashton*, 3 B. & Ald. 101; *Corner v. Shew*, 3 M. & W. 350. [See *Sneed v. Coleman*, 7 Grattan, 3.]

(d) 1 Saund. 211, note (2).

(e) 5 East, 10.

(f) *Saunders v. Wakefield*, 4 B. & Ald. 595; 1 Saund. 211, note (d). [In some of the American cases, the English doctrine,

in this respect, has been followed; but in other states the courts have rejected the English doctrine upon a judicial construction of the same language in their statutes. See 1 Chitty Contr. (11th Am. ed.) 91, 92, in note (a), 760, 761; *Sage v. Wilcox*, 6 Conn. 81; *Smith v. Ide*, 3 Vt. 290; *Packard v. Richardson*, 17 Mass. 122; *Bailey v. Freeman*, 11 John. 121. And now, in respect to guaranties in England, the consideration need not be expressed in writing, nor is it necessary that it should appear by necessary inference from a written document, under statute 19 & 20 Vict. c. 97, s. 3.]

(g) 1 Saund. 211, note (d). By stat. 19 & 20 Vict. c. 97 (Mercantile Law

This may be the proper place to consider how far an executor or administrator is liable upon a submission to arbitration of a claim upon him as the representative of the deceased. (*g*<sup>1</sup>) Where the executor submits in broad terms, to pay whatever shall be awarded, and the arbitrator awards that he shall pay a certain sum, he is personally bound to perform the award, whether he has assets or not. (*h*) For if an executor or administrator thinks fit to refer generally all matters in dispute to arbitration, without protesting against the reference being taken as an admission of assets, it will amount to such an admission. (*i*) Thus, in *Barry v. Rush*, (*k*) an action of debt was brought on a bond given by the defendant, by which he, as administrator, bound himself, \* his heirs, &c. The condition, after reciting that the plaintiff and defendant had agreed to submit to arbitration certain disputes which had arisen between the plaintiff and the defendant's intestate, touching certain articles of agreement between the intestate and the plaintiff's testator, was for the performance of an award to be made by the arbitrators concerning the matters assigned, and also concerning all other matters, &c. between the said parties. The declaration stated that the arbitrator had awarded that the defendant, as administrator, should pay to the plaintiff, as executrix, 298*l.* on the 27th June following, and that the parties should execute general releases. The defendant pleaded *plene administravit*, and that at the time of entering into the bond, he had no assets. To this plea there was a demurrer. And the court of K. B. held that the plea was bad; on the ground that the bond was a personal engagement by the defendant to perform the award. So in *Worthington*

Personal responsibility of executor on a submission to arbitration.

Amendment Act), s. 3, no special promise to answer for the debt, default, or miscarriage of another person shall be deemed invalid, by reason only that the consideration for such promise does not appear in writing or by necessary inference from a written document.

(*g*<sup>1</sup>) [By a well settled rule of the common law, executors and administrators have full authority to submit any disputed matter relating to the estate of a deceased person in their hands to arbitration. *Coffin v. Cottle*, 4 Pick. 454; *Bean v. Farnam*, 6 Pick. 269; *Chadbourn v. Chadbourn*, 9 Allen, 173; *post*, 1801, note (*i*<sup>1</sup>); *Nel on*

*v. Cornwall*, 11 Grattan, 724. The award will be binding against him in his official capacity, and against the creditors, and against the legatees and distributees. *Wheatly v. Martin*, 6 Leigh, 62; *Marshall C. J. in Strodes v. Patton*, 1 Brock. 228; *Bean v. Farnam*, 6 Pick. 269.]

(*h*) See Lord Kenyon's judgment in *Pearson v. Henry*, 5 T. R. 7; [*Bean v. Farnam*, 6 Pick. 269; *Swicard v. Swicard*, 2 Treadw. (S. Car.) Const. 218.]

(*i*) By Lord Eldon in *Robson v. —*, 2 Rose, 50. See, also, *Wansborough v. Dyer*, 2 Chitt. Rep. 40.

(*k*) 1 T. R. 691.

[1785]



*v. Barlow*, (*l*) where the arbitrator, under a reference between A., a claimant on the estate of an intestate, and B. the administrator, ascertained the amount of the demand, and directed that B. should pay it; it was held that B. could not afterwards object that he had no assets, but that he might be attached for non-payment. And Lord Kenyon said, that as the arbitrator had awarded the defendant to pay the amount of the plaintiff's demand, it was equivalent to determining, as between these parties, that the administrator had assets to pay the debt. So in *Riddell v. Sutton*, (*m*) an administratrix referred to the final award of an arbitrator certain disputes between the plaintiff and herself as executrix, to be finally settled by the said arbitration. The arbitrator found a balance due from the defendant to the plaintiff, and without finding assets, awarded her to pay it on or before a certain day. And the court of common pleas held that *plene administravit* was no bar to an action on the award. (*m*<sup>1</sup>)

But the personal liability of the executor or administrator \* may obviously depend, not only on the terms of the submission, but also on those of the award. Thus, in *Pearson v. Henry*, (*n*) the defendant, as administrator, submitted to an award, and the arbitrator awarded that a certain sum was due from the intestate's estate, *without awarding that the administrator was to pay it*. And it was held that the administrator was not thereby precluded from denying that he had assets. (*o*) So in *Love v. Honeybourne*, (*p*) a cause and all matters in difference between the plaintiff's testator and the defendant were referred to arbitration by a judge's order, and the arbitrator, upon an investigation of the accounts, ascertained that there was a certain balance against the testator, and, by his award, directed the plaintiff to pay that sum, *out of the assets*, on or before a certain day. The court was moved to

(*l*) 7 T. R. 453.

(*m*) 5 Bing. 200.

(*m*<sup>1</sup>) [When a submission has been made by bond, the executor is liable, not only because the seal imports a consideration, but also because, when a person has executed an instrument under seal, he shall not be permitted to disprove the consideration. There is this distinction between a note and bond, — the consideration of the bond cannot be explained; that of the note may be, as between the original parties

and all parties having notice of the consideration. *Ten Eyck v. Vanderpoel*, 8 John. 120; *Shoonmaker v. De Witt*, 17 John. 304; *Bank of Troy v. Topping*, 9 Wend. 273; *Robinson v. Lane*, 14 Sm. & M. 161; *Peaseley v. Boatright*, 2 Leigh, 195.]

(*n*) 5 T. R. 6.

(*o*) See 7 T. R. 453; [*Walker v. Patterson*, 36 Maine, 273.]

(*p*) 4 Dowl. & Ryl. 814.

set aside this award for uncertainty, on the ground that the arbitrator had not ascertained whether there were any assets in the hands of the executor to pay the sum awarded. The court refused to set aside the award, on the ground that although in that respect it might be uncertain, yet that would not vitiate the other part of the award, which was unquestionably certain, namely, that part which found that the plaintiff, as executor, was indebted upon a balance of accounts to the defendant. But Lord Tenterden observed, that it appeared to him that the latter part of the award did not conclude the question of assets, but left it open. And Holroyd J. remarked that the arbitrator had awarded that the money should be paid by the plaintiff out of the assets, upon a day which he fixed, *i. e.* if there were any assets in his hands at that time; and that if the plaintiff had fully administered at that time, he would not be bound to pay. (q)

It was held by the court of K. B. in *Gardner v. Baillie*, (r) that a power of attorney from an executor, to ask, demand, sue for, and receive all sums due to him as executor, and to \*do all further acts for receiving debts, &c. with power to do and act touching the premises as effectually as the principal could do, does not authorize the attorney to bind his principal by accepting bills, for debts due from his testator. But in *Howard v. Baillie*, (s) the court of common pleas inclined to hold that a letter of attorney given by an executor to A. enabling him to transact the affairs of the testator, in the name of the executor, as executor, and to pay, discharge, and satisfy all debts due from the testator, conveyed a sufficient authority to A. to accept a bill of exchange, in the name of the executor, drawn by a creditor for the amount of a debt due from the testator, so as to make the executor personally liable. And clearly, if the executor admits that such a bill, which has been so accepted by A. with the knowledge of the executor, is for a just debt, and that it ought to be paid, it affords sufficient evidence of an authority given by him to A. to accept that particular bill; without resorting to the letter of attorney. (t)

Liability of executor for acts done under his power of attorney.

(q) See, also, *In re Joseph & Webster*, 1 Russ. & My. 486. [For American cases in this point, see *McKeen v. Oliphant*, 3 Harrison, 442; *Tallman v. Tallman*, 5 Pick. 325; *Bean v. Farnam*, 6 Pick. 269; *Strodes v. Patton*, 1 Brock. 228; *Wheatley v. Martin*, 6 Leigh, 62; *Dickey v.*

*Sleeper*, 13 Mass. 244; *Chadbourn v. Chadbourne*, 9 Allen, 173; *Bennett v. Pierce*, 28 Conn. 315.]

(r) 6 T. R. 591.

(s) 2 H. Bl. 618.

(t) *Ib.*

With respect to the liability of an executor or administrator to the expenses of the funeral of the deceased, it appears to be clear, that if an executor or administrator gives orders for the funeral, or ratifies or adopts the acts of another party, who has given such orders, he makes himself liable individually, and not in his representative character, for the reasonable expenses. (u) And notwithstanding that, generally speaking, an administrator is not bound, as such, by his acts done before the letters of administration were obtained, (x) yet it should seem that if, before taking out letters, he gives orders, or sanctions the orders which another person has given, for the funeral of the deceased, he will be thereby bound, after he has become administrator, to satisfy the charges incurred under such orders. (y)

\* A question, however, of some difficulty arises, in cases where the executor or administrator has neither given nor adopted any directions for the burial, but he is sought to be charged on an implied contract arising out of his situation, with reference to his character and the estate of the deceased. (y<sup>1</sup>) According to one report of the case of *Ashton v. Sherman*, (z) Lord Holt laid down that "if A. employs B. to work for C. without warrant from C.,

(u) *Brice v. Wilson*, 8 Ad. & El. 349, note (c); S. C. 3 Nev. & M. 512; *Corner v. Shew*, 3 M. & W. 350; [*Trueman v. Tilden*, 6 N. H. 201; *Thomas J. in Luscomb v. Ballard*, 5 Gray, 405, 406. An action cannot be maintained against the estate of the deceased on a contract made by the administrator, having assets in his hands, for the funeral expenses of the deceased. *Ferrin v. Myrick*, 41 N. Y. 315.]

(x) See *ante*, 405, 407.

(y) *Lucy v. Walrond*, 3 Bing. N. C. 841. In this case, the action was sustained against the defendant in his character as administrator; but the point, as to whether he could be properly sued otherwise than individually, was precluded by the circumstance of the defendant having paid money into court.

(y<sup>1</sup>) [*In Hapgood v. Houghton*, 10 Pick. 154, 156, *Putnam J.* said: "The estate in the hands of the executor is bound by law for the payment of the expenses of the decent interment of the deceased. It is just as liable for the coffin and other nec-

essary charges of the funeral, as for necessary supplies in the lifetime. We are all clearly of opinion that the law raises a promise on the part of the executor or administrator to pay the funeral expenses, so far as he has assets. If the defendant has no assets, he should plead that matter in bar." In another case, it was held that where a person, being at a distance from home, sent for his wife and other relatives, and they went to see him, but did not arrive until after his death, and his executor paid the expenses of his journey, the executor was allowed to charge the same in his account of his administration. *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77; *ante*, 968 *et seq.* and notes; *post*, 1852, note (p). See *Campfield v. Ely*, 1 Green, 150; *Parker v. Lewis*, 2 Dev. Eq. 21; *Palmer v. Stevens*, R. M. Charlt. 56; *Gregory v. Hooker*, 1 Hawks, 394; *France's Estate*, 75 Penn. St. 220; *Thomas J. in Luscomb v. Ballard*, 5 Gray, 405.]

(z) *Holt*, 309.

A. is liable to pay for it; an executor is not liable to pay for funeral expenses unless he contracts for them." This *dictum* is not mentioned by the other reporters (*a*) of the same case; and indeed, from the nature of the facts, it is difficult to see how the remark could have been introduced into the discussion. But an anonymous case is to be found in the twelfth volume of modern reports, (*b*) which contains the mere statement that "an executor is not liable to pay for funeral expenses, without he contracts for it." And this probably is but a reference to the *dictum* of Lord Holt, inserted in the report of *Ashton v. Sherman*. Recent decisions, although the propriety of them has been much questioned, (*c*) must be considered as having overruled this doctrine; and it seems now established, that, in the absence of evidence to charge any other individual, an executor *with assets* is answerable, in point of law, without any express contract, for the funeral expenses of his testator, suitable to his degree. (*d*) Thus, in *Tugwell v. Heyman*, (*e*) Lord Ellenborough held that if executors neglect to give orders for the funeral of the testator, and have sufficient assets for that purpose, they are liable, upon an implied \* promise, to the person who furnishes the funeral in a manner suitable to the testator's degree and circumstances. So in *Rogers v. Price*, (*f*) it appeared that the testator died in Wales, at the house of his brother, who thereupon sent for the plaintiff, an undertaker residing at a distance. The plaintiff afterwards furnished the funeral, and the brother of the deceased attended it as chief mourner. It was admitted that the funeral was suitable to the degree of the deceased. There was no evidence of any contract made by the defendant, or that he knew of the funeral until it had

(a) 1 Ld. Raym. 263; Carth. 429; 12 Mod. 153; Comberb. 444, 449.

(b) P. 256.

(c) See 3 M. & W. 356.

(d) See the remark of Bayley J. in *Hancock v. Podmore*, 1 B. & Ad. 262; and of Jervis C. J. in *Ambrose v. Kerrison*, 10 C. B. 779. [This subject is very fully treated, and the cases cited and reviewed, in *Patterson v. Patterson*, 59 N. Y. 574, 582-586, where it is held that the duty of giving decent burial to a deceased testator who leaves some estate, devolves upon his executor; the necessity and rea-

sonable expenses thereof are a charge upon the estate, and have a preference over all debts against it as a part of the expenses of the trust; and the law implies a promise on the part of the executor to pay one who, in the absence or neglect of the executor, from the necessity of the case, incurs and pays such expenses. See *Fitzhugh v. Fitzhugh*, 11 Grattan, 300; *Hapgood v. Houghton*, 10 Pick. 154; *ante*, 968 *et seq.*; *Adams v. Butts*, 16 Pick. 344, 346.]

(e) 3 Campb. 298.

(f) 3 Y. & Jerv. 26.

taken place. But the court of exchequer held that, assuming him to have assets, he was liable, upon an implied promise, to pay the expenses of the burial. (*f*<sup>1</sup>)

However, it was said by Patterson J. in *Brice v. Wilson*, (*g*) that "it has been decided by several cases that an executor is liable upon an implied promise, at common law, to pay reasonable expenses for the funeral of his testator, *where no other person is liable upon an express contract*, although he does not give orders for it. But there is no case which goes the length of deciding that if the funeral be ordered by another person to whom credit is given, the executor is liable." In that case the testator's widow ordered an extravagant funeral without the knowledge of the executor, who, however, was present at the funeral, and did not object to it as extravagant. The undertaker, in his bill, charged the widow, but subsequently applied for payment to the executor, who promised to pay. An action was brought against the executor in his own right, in which he suffered judgment by default. And it was held that the defendant was liable to the whole amount of the reasonable charges for the funeral as ordered by the widow; not, it must be observed, on the ground of a common law liability of the defendant as executor, but on the ground of his having rendered himself liable by adopting the acts of the widow, \*and treating her as his agent. (*h*) But the learned judge in this case probably intended to lay down no more than that the executor, where credit has been given to another person, is not liable to the undertaker; for it should seem, that if the person, who gives the order for the funeral, pays for it, he may have an action against the executor for the reasonable expenses. Accordingly, it was held in *Green v. Salmon*, (*i*) that in an action (brought before Lord Denman's act, making interested witnesses competent) by an undertaker for funeral expenses, against a person not the executor, a residuary legatee was a competent witness

(*f*<sup>1</sup>) [*Trueman v. Tilden*, 6 N. H. 201; ante, 1788, note (*y*<sup>1</sup>). But it has been held that a person who, of his own accord, buries the deceased, cannot recover for the expenditures, of the personal representatives, without giving previous notice of them. *Gregory v. Hooker*, 1 Hawks, 394.]

(*g*) 3 Nev. & M. 512; S. C. 8 Ad. & El. 349, note (*c*). [See *Thomas J. in Luscomb v. Ballard*, 5 Gray, 405.]

(*h*) See *Walker v. Taylor*, 6 C. & P. 752; [*France's Estate*, 75 Penn. St. 220, 224, 225.]

(*i*) 8 Ad. & El. 348; S. C. 3 Nev. & P. 388.

for the plaintiff. For although a person, other than the executor, might have rendered himself liable to the under taker, the estate was ultimately answerable for so much of the cost as an executor might reasonably pay, and no more; and the witness, therefore, had no disqualifying interest. (j)

These authorities do not involve the decision of the question whether, in an action on the promise implied by law on the part of an executor to pay for the funeral of his testator, the judgment should be *de bonis propriis* or *de bonis testatoris*, or consequently whether *plene administravit* is a good plea. (j<sup>1</sup>) It should seem, however, that the naming the defendant executor in the declaration is surplusage, and that he is liable *de bonis propriis*, if liable at all; (k) but that, since the maintenance of the action is dependent on the fact of his being an executor *with assets*, it is a good defence, under the general issue, that his testator left none. And accordingly, in a modern case, (l) the court of exchequer held that the only point really determined, by *Tugwell v. Heyman*, and *Rogers v. Price*, was that the law implies a \* contract on the part of an executor, who has assets, *personally*, and not in his *representative character*; inasmuch as the implied promise cannot place the defendant in a different condition than if he had made an express contract to the same effect; which certainly would have bound him personally only. (l<sup>1</sup>)

With respect to the liability of an executor or administrator carrying on the trade of the deceased, the general principle is, that a trade is not transmissible, but is put an end to by the death of the trader. Executors, therefore, have no authority in law to carry on the trade of their testator, and if they do so, unless under the protection of the court of chancery, they run great risk, even although the will contains a direction that they should continue the business of the de-

Liability of executor continuing the trade of testator.

(j) But an heir-at-law who has voluntarily paid the funeral expenses of an intestate cannot claim to have them refunded out of the intestate's personal estate. *Coleby v. Coleby*, 12 Jur. N. S. 496, *coram Stuart V. C.*

(j<sup>1</sup>) [See *ante*, 1788, note (y<sup>1</sup>); *Campfield v. Ely*, 1 Green, 150; *Putnam J.* in *Hapgood v. Houghton*, 10 Pick. 156.]

(k) See *Hayter v. Moat*, 2 M. & W. 56; [Ferrin v. Myrick, 41 N. Y. 315.]

(l) *Corner v. Shew*, 3 M. & W. 350.

(l<sup>1</sup>) [In an action against an executor or administrator on his own contracts and engagements, though made for the benefit of the estate, the judgment is *de bonis propriis*, and he is to answer it with his own personal property. *Seip v. Drach*, 14 Penn. St. 352.]

ceased. (m) The case of an executor or administrator, in this respect, is very hard. For, if the trade be beneficial, the profits are applicable to the purposes of the trust, and the executor or administrator derives no personal benefit from the success. If, on the contrary, the trade prove a losing concern, the executor, on failure of assets, will be personally responsible for the debts contracted in the business since the testator's death, to the extent of all his own property; also, in his person; and he may be proceeded against as a bankrupt though he is but a trustee. (n) Accordingly, in a case (o) where the executors of a deceased partner continued his share of the partnership property in trade for the benefit of his infant daughter, the court of K. B. held that they were liable upon a bill drawn for the accommodation of the partnership, and paid in discharge of a partnership debt; although their names were \* not added to the firm, but the trade was carried on by the other partners under the same firm as before, and the executors, when they divided the profits and loss of the trade, carried the same to the account of the infant, and took no part of the profits to themselves. (p)

It is, therefore, obvious, that where partners covenant that they and their respective executors and administrators will continue partners for a certain term of years, and one of them dies before the term has expired, his executors or administrators cannot be compelled to become partners personally, (q) though the cove-

(m) *Barker v. Barker*, 1 T. R. 295; Ex parte Garland, 10 Ves. 119.

(n) Ex parte Garland, 10 Ves. 119; Ex parte Richardson, 1 Buck, 209; [Alsop v. Mather, 8 Conn. 584; Muntz v. Brown, 11 La. Ann. 472; Stedman v. Fiedler, 20 N. Y. 437; Thompson v. Brown, 4 John. Ch. 619; Ames v. Downing, 1 Bradf. Sur. 321.] If a firm in which the will authorized the employment of the assets becomes bankrupt, no proof can be made against the estate of the bankrupts in respect of the money so employed. *Scott v. Izon*, 34 Beav. 434.

(o) *Wightman v. Townroe*, 1 M. & Sel. 412.

(p) See, also, accord. *Labouchere v. Tupper*, 11 Moore P. C. 198; in which case Lord Justice Knight Bruce further laid down that the executor is personally lia-

ble, as above stated, though he carries on the trade avowedly as executor, and whether he is entitled or not entitled to be indemnified out of the testator's personal estate, and whether it is sufficient or insufficient for the purpose, and notwithstanding the testator was bound by a covenant with his partner to continue the trade in partnership. His lordship also pointed out that the propriety of his executor's conduct, as between himself and those beneficially interested in the testator's personal estate, cannot give the creditors of the trade, becoming so after the death, the rights of creditors of the testator. See, further, *In re Leeds Banking Company*, L. R. 1 Ch. App. 231.

(q) *Downs v. Collins*, 6 Hare, 418, 438; ante, 1658, note (o).

nant is binding on the estate of the deceased partner in their hands. (r)

If an executor, without any authority from the will, (s) take upon himself to trade with the assets, the testator's estate will not be liable in case of his bankruptcy; the \*testator's creditors and legatees will have a right to prove demands for such of the assets as have been wasted by the executor in the trade, in proportion to their respective interests; and with respect to such of the assets as can be specifically distinguished to be a part of the testator's estate, they will not pass to the assignees; the executors holding them *alieno jure*, they will not be liable to his bankruptcy. (t)

Again, the testator may, by his will, qualify the power of his executor to carry on trade, and limit it to a specific part of the assets, which he may sever from the general mass of his property for that purpose; and then, in the event of the bankruptcy of the executor, the rest of the assets will not be affected by the commission, although the whole of the executor's private property will be subject to its operation. (u) Accordingly, in *Cutbush v. Cutbush*, (v) a testator directed his widow to carry on his business, until his youngest child should attain twenty-one; and for that purpose, gave her the "entire use, disposal, and management of the capital, stock, and effects which should be in, due, and owing, or belonging to him in his said trade," at the time of his de-

(r) *Ib.* See, also, the cases collected, *ante*, 1748, note (b), as to the executors of deceased shareholders in public companies. If such an executor purchases further shares, he is, of course, personally liable in respect of these. *Spence's case*, 17 Beav. 203.

(s) In *Kirkman v. Booth*, 11 Beav. 273, 280, Lord Langdale said it was a rule without exception, that to authorize executors to carry on a trade, or permit it to be carried on with the assets, there ought to be the most distinct and positive authority and direction given by the will for that purpose. See, further, as to what shall constitute such an authority and direction, *Travis v. Milne*, 9 Hare, 141. ["A testator may doubtless subject his estate to liability for debts contracted after his death by a partnership of which he has been a member. But such liability can be

created only by clear provisions of the will, or unambiguous acts of the executors or trustees under the authority thereby conferred upon them. *Ex parte Garland*, 10 Ves. 110; *Burwell v. Mandeville*, 2 How. (U. S.) 560; *Stanwood v. Owen*, 14 Gray, 195." *Gray J. in Bacon v. Pomeroy*, 104 Mass. 583. But if an executor, without authority from the will, or an administrator, trade with the stock, he will be liable to the creditors of the estate for its full value. *Wood's Estate*, 1 Ashm. 314.]

(t) *Ex parte Garland*, 10 Ves. 110; *Toller*, 487; *Ex parte Richardson*, 1 Buck, 202; *ante*, 637.

(u) *Ex parte Garland*, 10 Ves. 110; *Toller*, 487; *Ex parte Richardson*, 1 Buck, 202; *Thompson v. Andrews*, 1 My. & K. 116.

(v) 1 Beav. 184.



cease; and he authorized his executors to augment the capital employed therein. The executors renounced, and the widow took out administration. And Lord Langdale M. R. held that the specified property of the testator only (and not his general assets) was liable to the debts contracted by the widow in carrying on the trade. (x)

\* Where an executor of a trader only disposes of his testator's stock, it will not constitute him a trader, even though he buy ingredients to make it marketable; but if the executor increases the stock and continues to sell, he becomes a trader. The distinction is that if an executor or administrator only buys with an intent of selling the testator's stock as soon as it can conveniently be done, he would not be considered a trader; but if he carries on the trade with an intent of continuing it definitely, and to make a general profit for the benefit either of himself or of those beneficially entitled to the stock, he clearly would be a trader. (y)

Thus, where the executor of a wine cooper found it necessary to buy wines to refine the stock left by the testator, this was held not to constitute him a trader. (z)

It must be observed, that when the law speaks of executors not carrying on the business of their testator, it means that they are not to buy and sell. There are many cases when executors not only may, but are bound to continue the business to a certain extent. Thus, if a party contracts for himself and his executors to build a house, and dies, the executors must go on, or they will be liable in damages for not completing the work. (a) So if a party engages to build a house, and dies, after having procured all the necessary materials, it should seem that his executors ought to complete the work, and not dispose of the materials at a loss to the estate. (b) Again, if a bookseller undertakes to publish a

(x) A direction in a will, that the testator's trade shall be carried on, does not of itself authorize the employment in the trade of more of the testator's property than was employed in it at his decease; nor does such a direction, coupled with a direction that the testator's debts shall be paid, authorize a mortgage of his real estate, not employed at his death in the trade, for the purposes of carrying it on. *M'Neillie v. Acton*, 4 De G., M. & G. 744.

(y) *Eden, Bankr.* 5.

(z) *Toller*, 487. [But it has been held that an executor or administrator is liable personally for the payment for goods purchased by him for the use and benefit of the estate of the deceased. *Harding v. Evans*, 3 Porter, 221; *Lovell v. Field*, 5 Vt. 218.]

(a) *Marshall v. Broadhurst*, 1 Cr. & Jerv. 405; *S. C. Tyrwh.* 350; *ante*, 1724.

(b) 1 Cr. & Jerv. 405. See, also, *Edwards v. Grace*, 2 M. & W. 190.

work in parts, and, before the completion, he dies, a subscriber has a claim upon the estate to complete the work; for otherwise those parts which he has purchased, upon the faith of the work being completed, are useless. So if a man makes half a wheelbarrow, or half a pair of shoes, and dies, the executors may complete them, and they are not bound to sacrifice the property of their testator by selling articles in an imperfect state. (c) So if the deceased died possessed of a manufactory, his executors, it should seem, would be justified in continuing the works for a reasonable time, if this should be requisite for the purpose of selling the machinery and premises to advantage; and they will not, at least in equity, be charged with any loss sustained in employing the assets in so continuing the trade, if they act *bonâ fide*, and according to the best of their judgment. (d)

It may here be mentioned, that if executors, who are by the testator's will to carry on his trade for the benefit of his family, suffer a person to conduct the trade in his own name, such person may bring actions in his own name for goods sold by him, though afterwards accountable to the executors. (e)

In a modern case, (f) connected with this subject, the facts were, that A., the widow and administratrix of B., continued B.'s trade after his decease. B., at his death, was indebted to C. on the balance of an account. A. continued to receive goods from and to make payments to C. as B. had done, and she was charged in account by C. with the debt. The payments made by her to C. exceeded the debt; but a balance was ultimately due to C. And it was held that B.'s debt was discharged by A.'s payments,

(c) 1 Cr. & Jerv. 405. See *Dakin v. Cope*, 2 Russ. 170.

(d) *Garrett v. Noble*, 6 Sim. 504. See also, accord. *Collinson v. Lister*, 20 Beav. 356, 365, 366, by Romilly M. R. ["An administrator who, in a particular transaction, acts in good faith, under the direction of all the personal representatives who are interested in the estate, is to be protected, in rendering his accounts in the probate court, from a claim on the part of such representatives that he has not administered strictly according to law in respect to such transaction. He may prosecute or defend suits, compromise claims upon the estate, or deal with the assets in a particular way,

not usual or strictly legal; as by continuing the estate in business; and the personal representatives by whose request or assent it has been done, will not be permitted to charge him with mal-administration;"] *Colt J. in Poole v. Munday*, 103 Mass. 176, 177; and so, in this case, it was decided that an administrator may be allowed in his account for inventoried property which he has spent or consumed in carrying on in good faith, by the request of all parties interested in the estate, the business of the testator after his death.]

(e) *Wilkes v. Lister*, 6 Esp. 78.

(f) *Sterndale v. Hankinson*, 1 Sim. 393.

and that the ultimate balance could not be proved as a debt against B.'s estate.

### \* SECTION II.

*Of the Liability of an Executor or Administrator in Respect of his own Tortious or Negligent Acts; and herewith of Devastavit; and of Executors' Accounts and Allowances.*

It remains to investigate what shall amount to such a violation or neglect of duty by an executor or administrator, as shall make him personally responsible.

This species of misconduct is called in law a *devastavit*; that is, a wasting of the assets; and is defined to be, a mismanagement of the estate and effects of the deceased, in squandering and misapplying the assets contrary to the duty imposed on them, for which executors or administrators shall answer out of their own pockets, as far as they had, or might have had, assets of the deceased. (*g*)

An executor is personally liable in equity for all breaches of the ordinary trusts which, in courts of equity, are considered to arise from his office. (*g*<sup>1</sup>) And it may here be observed, that where personal property is bequeathed to executors, as trustees, the circumstance of taking probate of the will is, in itself, an acceptance of the particular trusts. (*g*<sup>2</sup>) Therefore, where the will contains express directions what the executors are to do, an executor, who proves the will, must do all which he is directed to do as executor, and he cannot say, that though executor he is not clothed with any of those trusts. (*h*)

(*g*) Bac. Abr. Exors. L. 1; [Edmundson v. Roberts, 2 How. (Miss.) 822.]

(*g*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Armstrong v. Cooper*, 11 Ill. 560; *Buchanan v. Pue*, 6 Gill, 115; *Somerset v. Somerset*, 3 Gill, 276; *Beall v. Hilliary*, 1 Md. 189. If a legacy is given in trust, and no person is named as trustee, it belongs to the executor as such to administer the estate according to the provisions of the will. *Groton v. Ruggles*, 17 Maine, 137. Where, however, the testator appointed a person to be his sole executor, and bequeathed to him, his "executor and trustee," his property in trust, &c. it was held that the offices of executor and

trustee were distinct, and that the duties of the trust were not imposed upon him as executor, but were to be performed by him as trustee. *Wheatley v. Badger*, 7 Penn. St. 459. See *Wilde J. in Tainter v. Clark*, 13 Met. 220, 226, 227.]

(*g*<sup>2</sup>) [*Worth v. M'Arden*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 199.]

(*h*) *Mucklowe v. Fuller*, Jacob. 198; *Booth v. Booth*, 1 Beav. 125; *Stiles v. Guy*, 4 Y. & Coll. 571, 575; *Williams v. Nixon*, 2 Beav. 472; [*Saunderson v. Stearns*, 6 Mass. 37; *Dorr v. Wainwright*, 13 Pick. 328; *Hall v. Cushing*, 9 Pick. 395; *Newcomb v. Williams*, 9 Met. 534; *Prior v. Talbot*, 10

The general rule adopted, with respect to the liability of executors and administrators on this head, is founded upon two princi-

Cush. 1; Carson v. Carson, 6 Allen, 397, 399; Dole v. Johnson, 3 Allen, 364, 367; Pettingill v. Pettingill, 60 Maine, 411, 423; Nutter v. Vickery, 64 Maine, 490; Groton v. Ruggles, 17 Maine, 137; Johnson J. in Chesnut v. Strong, 1 Hill Ch. 124; Metcalf J. in Holbrook v. Harrington, 16 Gray, 102, 105; Knight v. Loomis, 30 Maine, 209; Towne v. Ammidown, 20 Pick. 535.] But where the same persons are appointed trustees and executors of a will, a revocation by the testator of their appointment as executors is not necessarily a revocation of their appointment as trustees. Graham v. Graham, 16 Beav. 550; Cartwright v. Shepherd, 17 Beav. 301; Worley v. Worley, 18 Beav. 58. [So, on the other hand, persons so appointed executors and trustees by the will may accept and qualify as executors and decline to act as trustees. And where bonds are required for the faithful performance of the duties of each office if the persons so appointed give bonds as executors, they will be deemed to have declined the office of trustees unless they give bonds in that capacity also. Williams v. Cushing, 34 Maine, 370. Where a person, appointed executor, and trustee of the residue of testator's estate, under a will, accepts the office of executor but declines to act as trustee, the probate court may appoint another person to take the place of such residuary trustee. Williams v. Cushing, 34 Maine, 370. But in Pennsylvania, where executors are declared trustees by a will, security can only be demanded as executors, the offices being inseparable. In re Wilson's Estate, 2 Penn. St. 325. Testamentary trustees are required by statute in Massachusetts, except in special cases, to give bonds to the judge of the probate court for the county in which the will is proved, for the faithful fulfilment of the duties of the office, before entering upon the performance of them. Genl. Sta. c. 100, § 1. See Shaw v. Paine, 12 Allen, 297. Trustees for charitable trusts need not give bonds. Drury v. Natick, 10 Al-

len, 169. A trustee in a will who neglects to give the bond required is considered as declining the trust. Genl. Sta. c. 100, § 4. See Tainter v. Clark, 13 Met. 220, 226; Clark v. Tainter, 7 Cush. 567; ante, 287, note (m). As to the liability of an executor who pays over a fund to a trustee named in the will to receive it, before such trustee has given the required bond, see Newcomb v. Williams, 9 Met. 525, 534, 535. Where the same person is appointed by the will executor and trustee, "if for greater convenience he wishes to close his account as executor, and open a new account as trustee, he must give bond in the capacity of trustee, and charge himself in one capacity, *eo instanti*, and by the same act by which he claims his discharge in the other." Shaw C. J. in Prior v. Talbot, 10 Cush. 1, 3; Dorr v. Wainwright, 13 Pick. 328. He is bound to account for the estate as executor, unless he has rendered an account in the probate office, charging himself as trustee, and that account has been allowed by the probate court. Shaw C. J. in Conkey v. Dickinson, 13 Met. 53; Johnson v. Fuquay, 1 Dana, 514. As to the time when, and the circumstances under which, a person who is named in the will as both executor and trustee, will be presumed to have closed his administration of the estate, and to hold as trustee, see Lark v. Linstead, 2 Md. Ch. 162; Carrol v. Bosley, 6 Yerger, 220; Jennings v. Davis, 5 Dana, 127; Kirby v. Turner, Hopkins, 309; Drane v. Bayliss, 1 Humph. 174. He is chargeable as executor for the property in his hands until he has given bond as trustee, and charged himself with the property as trustee. Prior v. Talbot, 10 Cush. 1; Deering v. Adams, 37 Maine, 269. He can only discharge himself as executor by charging himself as trustee. Shaw C. J. in Treadwell v. Cordis, 5 Gray, 359; Minot v. Amory, 2 Cush. 377. See Swope v. Chambers, 2 Grattan, 319. Where the same persons are both executors and trustees, "if, by the constitution of the trust,

ples : 1st. That, in order not to deter persons from \* undertaking these offices, the court is extremely liberal in making every possible allowance, and cautious not to hold executors or administrators liable upon slight grounds. 2d. That care must be taken to guard against an abuse of their trust. (i)

Executors and administrators may be guilty of a *devastavit*, not only by a direct abuse by them, as by spending or consuming, or converting to their own use, (k) the effects of the deceased, but also by such acts of negligence and wrong administration as will disappoint the claimants on the assets. (l)

With respect to incurring the charge by plain and palpable acts of abuse, an example of this sort of *devastavit* may be afforded by recurring to a subject already considered, viz, the application of the assets to the satisfaction of the executor's own debt to a third party. (m) So, where the executor collusively sells the testator's goods at an undervalue, when he might have obtained a higher price for them, it is a *devastavit*, and he shall answer the real value. (n)

With regard to a *devastavit* arising from the mal-administration of the executor or administrator, the charge will be incurred by misapplying the assets in undue expenses for the funeral ; (o) in the payment of debts out of their legal order, to

they were exempted from giving bonds, as they may be, it would probably be held sufficient — as no actual payment can be made to one's self — to show, by any authoritative and notorious act, that they had elected to act in the capacity of trustees ; as, for instance, if they claim a credit in their executorship account, filed in the probate office, for a sum, held by themselves as trustees, and also file an inventory or account, charging themselves with the like sum as trustees." Shaw C. J. in *Newcomb v. Williams*, 9 Met. 534 ; *Hall v. Cushing*, 9 Pick. 395 ; *Elliott v. Sparrell*, 114 Mass. 404, 406. See *Miller v. Congdon*, 14 Gray, 114.]

(i) *Powell v. Evans*, 5 Ves. 843 ; *Raphael v. Boehm*, 13 Ves. 410 ; *Tebbs v. Carpenter*, 1 Madd. 298.

(k) [Edmundson v. Roberts, 2 How. (Miss.) 822.] A disposing of the goods of the testator to the executor's own use is no *devastavit*, if he pays the testator's debts to

the value, with his own money, in such order as the law appoints. *Merchant v. Driver*, 1 Saund. 307 ; *Com. Dig. Admon. L. 2 ; ante*, 647.

(l) *Bac. Abr. Exors. L. 1.*

(m) See *ante*, 937. [See *Camp v. Smith*, 68 N. Car. 537.]

(n) *Wentw. Off. Ex. 302*, 14th ed. ; *Bac. Abr. Exors. L. 1 ; Rice v. Gordon*, 11 Beav. 265 ; [Pinchard v. Woods, 8 Grattan, 140 ; *Matter of Saltus*, 3 Abb. (N. Y.) App. Dec. 243. An executor who obtains a license to sell real estate upon a false representation of a deficiency of personal estate, and actually sells the same, is chargeable with mal-administration ; and a devisee whose land is taken and sold under such license, may obtain redress against the executor and his sureties upon the bond, although the executor never received anything from the sale. *Chapin v. Waters*, 110 Mass. 195.]

(o) *Ante*, 968 *et seq.*

the prejudice of such as are superior; (*p*) or by an \*assent to, or payment of a legacy, when there is not a fund sufficient for creditors. (*q*)

It must, however, be observed, that it is not a *devastavit* in an executor or administrator to pay a debt of an inferior degree, before one of higher, of which he had no notice. (*r*) And it has been doubted whether it is any *devastavit* to pay over the whole of the assets to the legatees or parties entitled in distribution, so as to leave nothing to satisfy a claimant for a valuable consideration, if the executor had no notice of the existence of the demand and a reasonable time elapsed, after the death of the testator, before the payment by the executor to the legatee, or next of kin. (*s*) But the modern authorities appear to establish that the mere circumstance of want of notice of a debt or claim against the estate of the deceased will not excuse the executor from the payment or satisfaction of it, if the assets were originally sufficient for that purpose, notwithstanding that, in ignorance of the existence of the debt or claim, he may have handed over the assets *bonâ fide* to legatees or parties entitled in distribution. (*t*)

If the executor surrenders, or otherwise fails to preserve the

(*p*) *Ante*, 989 *et seq.*; [*Moye v. Albritton*, 7 Ired. Eq. 62; *Place v. Oldham*, 10 B. Mon. 400. An administrator of an estate that is insolvent is answerable for the whole estate in his hands to be applied in a general distribution among the creditors. If he pays one in preference to others, it is a payment in his own wrong, and such payment cannot discharge him from a liability to account for the money which he has thus expended in violation of his official duty. The only exceptions to the rule are the cases of privileged debts; and of payments made after a year from the date of the administration, without notice of other debts, to an amount which would render the estate insolvent. *Hoar J. in Cobb v. Muzzey*, 13 Gray, 58, 59. See *Hinton v. Kennedy*, 3 S. Car. 459. The administrator is guilty of a *devastavit*, if he delivers the property of the estate to the next of kin of the intestate, leaving the debts unpaid. *M'Nair v. Ragland*, 1 Dev. Ch. 516. So where an executor pays over to the residuary legatee the yearly

balances remaining after the payment of annuities given by the will, without making provision for future payments of the annuities, he will be held personally liable to the annuitants. *Stephenson v. Axson*, 1 Bailey Eq. 274.] But if the executor pays an inferior debt with his own money, though it be to the value of the testator's goods in his hands, it should seem that it will not be a *devastavit*; for the property of the assets will not be changed thereby, but they remain as against a creditor of a debt of a superior degree in the same plight as they were before. *Com. Dig. Admon. I. 2*; *Wheatley v. Lane*, 1 Saund. 218, by *Pemberton, arguendo*.

(*q*) *Ante*, 1340. [So by failing to invest in disobedience of the plain directions of the will. *Gilman v. Gilman*, 2 Lansing, 1.]

(*r*) See *ante*, 1028.

(*s*) See *ante*, 1348 *et seq.*

(*t*) *Ante*, 1351, 1352 *et seq.* [See *Johnson v. Fuquay*, 1 Dana, 514.] But see *stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 29, ante*, 1355.

residue of a term of years, where the land is of greater yearly value than the rent, it is a *devastavit*. (u) On the other hand, if the rent be greater than the yearly value of the land, and the testator was the assignee of the term, the executor may be guilty of a *devastavit* in neglecting to exonerate the estate of the testator from its liabilities in respect of the lease by assigning it to some other person. (x) If a term be assigned by an executor in trust to attend the inheritance, he is liable to the creditors for a *devastavit*; \* for the term has by this means become not assets at law. (y)

If the executor releases a debt due to the testator, or cancels or delivers to the obligor a bond, of which the testator was the obligee, this shall charge him to the amount of the debt, whether in point of fact he received it or not. (z)

(u) Wentw. Off. Ex. c. 13, p. 312, 14th ed.; Thompson v. Thompson, 9 Price, 476.

(x) Rowley v. Adams, 4 My. & Cr. 534; ante, 1750, note (l). [By statute, in New Hampshire, it is made the duty of an executor or administrator, "if there are sufficient assets, to redeem all property of the deceased under mortgage, pledge, or levy of execution, for less than its value, or which, if unredeemed, would diminish the value of the estate, unless he shall by license sell the same subject to such incumbrance; and the neglect so to redeem shall be deemed mal-administration and waste." Rev. Sta. c. 159, § 11; Tuttle v. Robinson, 33 N. H. 104, 115; Rossiter v. Cossit, 15 N. H. 38. But the administrator of an insolvent estate has no right to redeem for the benefit of the widow. If he does redeem with the assets of the estate, she is let in to dower without contribution. Rossiter v. Cossit, 15 N. H. 38. An administrator has no authority to expend the assets in clearing the estate from the widow's dower by purchase or otherwise. Stock v. Parker, 2 McCord Ch. 376; Ashurst v. Ashurst, 13 Ala. 781. In Ripley v. Sampson, 10 Pick. 373, 374, Shaw C. J. said, "It not unfrequently happens that the most important and valuable part of an estate of a deceased person consists in stocks and shares in in-

corporated companies; and in this respect there is no distinction between manufacturing and other corporations. Such shares may be of great value, and yet liable to a small assessment. The share is in the same condition with any other pledged property. If it is of more value than the amount of the assessment, it is the duty of the administrator to pay the assessment and redeem the share for the benefit of the estate. The duty of the administrator in such case is indicated by the interest of the estate with which he is intrusted. And even if the share should fall in value in his hands, after such redemption, if he shall appear to have acted in good faith and with a just regard to the best interests of the estate, he would undoubtedly be protected. But where the shares are confessedly of no value, and will be of no value after the assessment may have been paid, an administrator is not at liberty to take money out of the general assets of the estate to pay such assessment." See, also, Cutler v. Middlesex Manuf. Co. 14 Pick. 483, 484, Shaw C. J.; Bowers v. Williams, 34 Miss. 324; Rossiter v. Cossit, supra.]

(y) Charlton v. Low, 3 P. Wms. 330. [As to the duty and liability of executors in respect to terms for years, see Fisher v. Fisher, 1 Bradf. Sur. 335.]

(z) Wentw. Off. Ex. 303, 14th ed.;

So if he releases a cause of action founded on a tort accruing either in the lifetime of the testator, or in his own time in right of the testator, this will be a *devastavit*. (a) So if he agrees with an executor *de son tort* and accepts his covenant for payment, he will be liable for so much, though nothing be paid. (b) So if the executor takes an obligation in his own name, for a debt due by simple contract to the testator, this shall charge him as much as if he had received the money; for the new security had extinguished the old right and is a *quasi* payment to him. (c) So, if the husband of a *feme covert* executrix indulge the debtor with further time, in consideration of an express promise to pay the husband, who afterwards recovers on such promise, this is a *devastavit*. For the money recovered will not be assets of the testator's estate, and if the husband dies before execution sued, the executor or administrator of the husband, and not the wife, shall have execution. (d) So, if an executor, in his representative \* character, commences an action in which he has a right to recover, and afterwards covenants with the defendant to receive a specific sum at a future day as a compensation, he will be answerable for the money as assets immediately. (e)

Cocks v. Jennor, Hob. 66; Veghelman v. Keighley, And. 138; S. C. *nomine* Brightman v. Keighley, Cro. Eliz. 43; S. C. 4 Leon. 102; S. C. Godb. 29; [De Diemar v. Van Wagenen, 7 John. 404. See Davenport v. First Cong. Society, 33 Wis. 387.] But a receipt for so much due on the bond as the executor receives, is not a *devastavit* for the residue. Wentw. Off. Ex. 303, 14th ed.; Com. Dig. Admon. I. 2. Nor a parol agreement that he will not sue for more. Ib. Nor a delivery of the bond into another hand, that it may not be sued. Ib. But see *post*, 1806, note (k); [De Diemar v. Van Wagenen, 7 John. 404. Probate courts in Massachusetts may authorize executors and administrators to release and discharge, upon such terms and conditions as appear proper, any vested, contingent, or possible right or interest belonging to the persons or estates represented by them, in or to any real or personal estate, whenever it appears to be for the benefit of the persons or estates in trust. Genl. Sta. c. 101, § 11.]

(a) Wentw. Off. Ex. 304, 4th ed.; Com. Dig. Admon. I. 1; Bac. Abr. Exors. L. 1.

(b) Com. Dig. Admon. I. 1. [If an executor takes land in payment of a debt due to his testator, he is chargeable with the price allowed by him for the lands, unless those entitled to the estate elect to take the land. Weir v. Tate, 4 Ired. Eq. 264.]

(c) Goring v. Goring, Yelv. 10; Bac. Abr. Exors. L. 1, *ante*, 1670; [note (p).] But where the executor delivered up a bond due to his testator, and took a new bond, with surety to himself for the debt, it was held that this, though a conversion in law, was none in equity. Armitage v. Metcalfe, 1 Chanc. Cas. 74.

(d) Yard v. Ellard, 1 Salk. 117; S. C. Carth. 463; 1 Ld. Raym. 368.

(e) Norden v. Levit, 2 Lev. 189; S. C. T. Jones, 88; 1 Freem. 442; S. C. cited and said to have been affirmed on error, in Dom. Proc. Barker v. Talcot, 1 Vern. 474; Jenkins v. Plombe, 6 Mod. 94. [See

[1800]



Again, if the executor submits a debt due to the testator to arbitration, and the arbitrators award him less than his due; this, being his own voluntary act, shall bind him, and he shall answer for the full value as assets. (*f*)

But though, generally speaking, an executor, compounding, (*g*) or releasing, a debt, must answer for the same, (*g*<sup>1</sup>) yet if it appears to have been for the benefit of the trust estate it is an excuse. (*g*<sup>2</sup>) Therefore, in a case where there were arrears of rent on a lease, and, on the tenant's becoming insolvent, the executor released the arrears, and gave him a sum of money to quit possession, Lord Talbot held that as the executor appeared to have acted

Stark v. Hunton, 3 N. J. Eq. 300.] It seems to have been once holden, that if an executor to an obligee in a penal bond, after the bond is forfeited, release the penalty on receipt of the principal and interest, this is a *devastavit*. Wentw. Off. Ex. 303, 14th ed. But the contrary was held by three judges, in Kniveton v. Latham, Cro. Car. 490. And since the statute 4 Ann. c. 16, s. 13, it is obviously no *devastavit*.

(*f*) Wentw. Off. Ex. 304, 14th ed.; Anon. 3 Leon. 53; Com. Dig. Admon. I. 1; Bac. Abr. Exors. L. 1; Yard v. Allard, 1 Ld. Raym. 369, by Holt C. J. But see stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s. 30, *post*, 1801, and note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).

(*g*) See Wiles v. Gresham, 5 De G., M. & G. 770; [Potter v. Cummings, 18 Maine, 55; Patten's case, 1 Tuck. N. Y. Sur. 56.] But see, also, stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s. 30, *post*, 1801.

(*g*<sup>1</sup>) [De Diemar v. Van Wagenen, 7 John. 404.]

(*g*<sup>2</sup>) [*Post*, note (*i*<sup>1</sup>); Fridge v. Buhler, 6 La. Ann. 272; Wyman's Appeal, 13 N. H. 18; Kee v. Kee, 2 Grattan, 116; Berry v. Parkes, 3 Sm. & M. 626; Woolfork v. Sullivan, 23 Ala. 548; Pusey v. Clemson, 9 Serg. & R. 204; Boyd v. Oglesby, 23 Grattan, 674. By statute in New Hampshire an executor or administrator may be authorized by the judge of probate to compound and discharge any debts or demands due to the estate, in case of the insolvency of the debtor, on receiving a less sum than the amount due the estate. But

in Wyman's Appeal, 13 N. H. 18, 20, Parker C. J. said: "It is not to be doubted that, before the passage of the statute, an administrator might lawfully compound with a debtor, and receive less than the amount of the debt, if he could show that what he had done was beneficial to the estate. But he acted at some peril in the matter, for if an objection was taken, the burden of proof lay upon him to show that he had acted judiciously, and that the estate had not been prejudiced by the compromise; and if he failed in this he might be made chargeable with the difference." It would not be sufficient to show that the administrator acted in good faith, and by the advice of disinterested and judicious men. "The statute has provided a mode in which the administrator, by obtaining a previous authority from the judge, may compromise with the debtor with perfect safety, and without being subject to expense in sustaining his acts. But the right to compromise, which existed prior to the passage of the statute, is not taken away. It may still be exercised as before, subject to the same limitations and risk." A similar construction has been given to the statute of New York, allowing executors and administrators to compromise, with the surrogate's approval. Chouteau v. Suydam, 21 N. Y. 179; Re Scott, 1 Redf. Sur. 234. See Howell v. Blodgett, 1 Redf. Sur. 323. So in Maine, Chase v. Bradley, 26 Maine, 531. So in Massachusetts, Chadbourne v. Chadbourne, 9 Allen, 173, 174.]

for the benefit of the estate, he should be allowed both sums. (*h*) So, in *Pennington v. Healey*, (*i*) an administrator sued a debtor to his intestate, \* and recovered a verdict against him; and the debtor, being in gaol, subsequently petitioned to be discharged under the insolvent act. The debtor offered terms, whereby he was to be liberated on the payment of 150*l.*, a sum less than the costs incurred in the action. The administrator agreed to the terms, and liberated the debtor. And the court of exchequer held, in an action brought against him by a creditor of the intestate, that he was not chargeable with any part of the debt as assets.

And now, by stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s. 30, "it shall be lawful for any executors to pay any debts or claims upon any evidence that they may think sufficient, and to accept any composition or any security, real or personal, for any debts due to the deceased, and to allow any time for payment of any such debts as they shall think fit, and also to compromise, compound or submit to arbitration all debts, accounts, claims, and things whatsoever relating to the estate of the deceased, and for any of the purposes aforesaid to enter into, give, and execute such agreements, instruments of composition, releases, and other things as they shall think expedient, without being responsible for any loss to be occasioned thereby." (*i*<sup>1</sup>)

Stat. 23 &  
24 Vict. c.  
145, s. 30.  
Executors  
may com-  
pound, and  
refer to ar-  
bitration,  
&c.

(*h*) *Blue v. Marshall*, 3 P. Wms. 381. In *Legh v. Holloway*, 8 Ves. 213, an executor having, under a misconception of a will, at a trial of an issue, entered into a compromise with the creditor, expressly subject to the approbation of the court, was permitted to try the issue, paying the costs of the former proceedings.

(*i*) 1 Cr. & My. 402; S. C. 3 Tyrwh. 319.

(*i*<sup>1</sup>) [Probate courts in Massachusetts may authorize executors and administrators to adjust, by arbitration or compromise, any demands in favor of or against the estates represented by them. Genl. Sta. c. 101, § 10. But the legislature, in conferring this power upon probate courts, "intended only to give security and protection to executors and administrators in the exercise of that authority

with which they are clothed by the common law, and to relieve them from the liability which exists at common law, to have their acts in agreeing to a submission called in question, or to have the finding of arbitrators revised or set aside to their injury, by those who were interested in the effects of the testator or intestate." The statute was not intended to repeal the rule of the common law in Massachusetts, which is that executors and administrators have full authority to submit any disputed matter relating to the estate of a deceased person in their hands to arbitration. *Chadbourn v. Chadbourn*, 9 Allen, 173, 174; *Coffin v. Cottle*, 4 Pick. 454; *Bean v. Farnam*, 6 Pick. 269; *Bacon v. Crandon*, 15 Pick. 79. So in Maine, executors and administrators have authority to submit to referees any controverted per-

[1801]

But by sect. 34, "the provisions contained in this act shall, except as hereinbefore otherwise provided, extend only to persons entitled or acting under a deed, will, codicil, or other instrument executed after the passing of this act (28th August, 1860), or under a will or codicil confirmed or revived by a codicil executed after that date."

Sect 34.  
To what  
cases the  
act ex-  
tends.

sonal claims affecting the estates under their care. This authority is deduced from their right or duty to prosecute or defend suits involving the interests of the estates intrusted to their care. One mode of determining controversies, which the law has provided, is a submission to arbitration. Administrators may also pay and discharge claims against the deceased, and having power to decide upon their existence and validity, they can transfer it to another, when disputes arise concerning such claims. Hence it has been held that they can submit doubtful claims to arbitration. *Eaton v. Cole*, 1 Fairf. 137; *Weston v. Stewart*, 2 Fairf. 326; *Wells J.* in *Kendall v. Bates*, 35 Maine, 357, 358. Executors and administrators may, in other states, in some form, either under the common law or by statute, submit doubtful claims against the estate of the deceased to arbitration. *Childs v. Updyke*, 9 Ohio St. 333; *Woodin v. Bayley*, 13 Wend. 453; *Tracy v. Suydam*, 30 Barb. 110; *Green v. Creighton*, 7 Sm. & M. 197; *White v. Story*, 43 Barb. 124; *Russell v. Lane*, 1 Barb. 519; *Brockett v. Bush*, 18 Abb. Pr. 337; *McDaniels v. McDaniels*, 40 Vt. 340; *Barker v. Belknap*, 39 Vt. 168; *Adarene v. Marlow*, 33 Vt. 558; *Wills v. Rand*, 41 Ala. 198; *Clark v. Bomford*, 20 Ark. 440; *Anderson v. Baker*, 15 Ohio St. 173; *Sands v. Craft*, 10 Abb. Pr. 216; *Bucklin v. Chapin*, 53 Barb. 488; *Godding v. Porter*, 17 Abb. Pr. 374; *Reed v. Wiley*, 5 Sm. & M. 394; *Regan v. Stone*, 7 Sm. & M. 104; *Swicard v. Wilson*, 2 Rep. Con. Ct. 218; *Alling v. Munson*, 2 Conn. 691; *Jones v. Deyer*, 16 Ala. 221; *Overly v. Overly*, 1 Metc. (Ky.) 117; *Merchants' Bank v. Rawls*, 21 Geo. 334. In Virginia, an executor or administrator may submit a matter concerning the ad-

ministration of the estate of the deceased to arbitration; but is liable, as for a *devastavit*, if the estate is injured in consequence. *Nelson v. Cornwell*, 11 Grattan, 724. In New York the reference provided by the statute is not applicable to claims made by the executor or administrator against other parties, and in favor of the estate, except those made strictly in the way of set-off. *Akely v. Akely*, 17 How. Pr. 21. In Texas arbitration is held not to be a proper mode of establishing a rejected claim against an estate. *Yarborough v. Leggett*, 14 Texas, 677. So in Illinois an executor has no power to submit a claim against his testator's estate to arbitration. *Reitzell v. Miller*, 25 Ill. 67. But in other states the power extends as well to claims against, as to debts due to, the estate of the deceased. See *supra*; *Peters's Appeal*, 38 Penn. St. 239; *Dickinson v. Dutcher*, *Brayt* (Vt.) 104. A disputed claim of an executor or administrator against the deceased may, in Massachusetts, be submitted to referees under an order of the probate court. *Genl. Sts. c. 97, §§ 26, 27*. See *Willey v. Thompson*, 9 Met. 329; *Dana v. Prescott*, 1 Mass. 200. So the claim of a creditor against the insolvent estate of the deceased, disallowed by the commissioners of insolvency, may, after appeal, be submitted to arbitrators, under a rule of the probate court. *Genl. Sts. c. 99, § 11*. See *Gilmore v. Hubbard*, 12 Cush. 220. It is further provided by statute, in Massachusetts, that the supreme judicial court may authorize executors or administrators to adjust, by arbitration or compromise, any controversy that may arise between different claimants to the estate in their hands, to which such executors or administrators, together with all other parties in being, claiming an interest

An executor will be guilty of a *devastavit*, if he applies the assets in payment of a claim which he is not bound to satisfy; (*j*) as if he makes disbursements in the schooling, \*feeding, or clothing of the children of the deceased, subsequently to his decease. (*k*) So where the testator had been attended for many years by a physician without any fees, and the executors had paid him 100*l.*, and he had stated in an affidavit, that the testator had promised to pay him for his services or leave him an equivalent; it was held, that as the physician could not have claimed himself as for a legal debt, the executors, who had taken on themselves to pay him, stood in the same situation as he did; and the payment, therefore, could not be allowed. (*l*) So if an executor pays a bond founded on a usurious contract, or a bond *ex turpi causâ*, such payment will amount to a *devastavit*, as well against legatees as creditors. (*m*) So if the testator was bound in

By unnecessary payments:

in such estate, shall be parties. Stat. Mass. 1861, c. 174, § 1. And by a later act, the supreme judicial court, sitting in equity, is empowered to authorize the persons named as executors in any instrument purporting to be the last will of any person deceased, to adjust, by arbitration or compromise, any controversy that may arise thereon between the persons claiming as devisees or legatees under such will and the heirs and next of kin of the deceased; to which arbitration or compromise, the persons named as executors, those claiming as devisees or legatees, and those claiming the estate as intestate, shall be parties. Stat. Mass. 1864, c. 173, § 1. In Iowa, the executor, with the approbation of the court, may compound with any debtor of the estate who may be thought unable to pay the whole debt, or in order to avoid doubtful litigation. Laws of Iowa, Revis. 1860, p. 411, § 2368.]

(*j*) Com. Dig. Admon. I. 1; Manning v. Purcell, 7 De G., M. & G. 55; Vez v. Emery, 5 Ves. 141. In this last case Lord Alvanley said that if the executor had taken advice as to the propriety of making the payment, and had been advised by any gentleman of the law in this country that he was bound to do so, he (the learned judge) would not have held

him liable. However, the general rule is that if, under the best advice he can procure, an executor acts wrong, it is his misfortune; but public policy requires that he should be the person to suffer. If he has been misadvised the court must act, not upon the improper advice under which he may have acted, but upon the acts he has done. Doyle v. Blake, 2 Sch. & Lef. 243. [See Wyman's Appeal, 13 N. H. 18; King v. Morrison, 1 Penn. 188.]

(*k*) Giles v. Dyson, 1 Stark. N. P. C. 32. [An executor or administrator is responsible for personal property applied by him to repairs and improvements of the real estate of the deceased, although so applied in executing an agreement of the intestate; Cobb v. Muzzey, 13 Gray, 57; and he will not be allowed for money expended by him for ardent spirits used at an auction of the goods of the deceased. Griswold v. Chandler, 5 N. H. 492.]

(*l*) Shallcross v. Wright, 12 Beav. 558. But in the same case a payment was allowed which the executors had made in respect of the loss of the furniture of the house of a friend where the testator had died of malignant fever, and which had been destroyed, under medical advice, to prevent infection.

(*m*) Winchcombe v. Bishop of Win-

[1802]

a joint obligation, and he dies before the co-obligor, the executor is not liable on the instrument, and therefore if he pays the sum due upon it, he will be guilty of a *devastavit*. (n) However, in equity, the executor is in some instances chargeable *pari passu* with the survivor; and in such cases he is justified in applying the assets accordingly. (o) But an executor may pay a debt proved to be justly due by his testator, although barred by the statute of limitations. (p) Again, it has been held that he is not bound to plead the statute to an action commenced \* against him by a creditor of the testator. (q) Thus, if the surplus of the per-

chester, Hobart, 167; S. C. cited 1 Brownl. 33; Robinson v. Gee, 1 Ves. sen. 254; Com. Dig. Admon. I. 1.

(n) *Ante*, 1013, 1741. [So an executor will be held responsible for the damage, if, by fraud or negligence, he has subjected his testator's estate to the payment of a debt for which the testator was surety, when, by reasonable diligence, it might have been collected of the principal debtor. Chambers's Appeal, 11 Penn. St. 436; Tuggle v. Gilbert, 1 Duvall (Ky.), 340. Whether an executor or administrator of a deceased surety, who might have indemnified the estate by voluntarily paying the debt and proceeding against the principal, but did not, is chargeable with the debt upon the insolvency of the principal debtor, see Utley v. Rawlins, 2 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 438.]

(o) *Ante*, 1745.

(p) Norton v. Frecker, 1 Atk. 526, by Lord Hardwicke, Stahlshmidt v. Lett, 1 Sm. & G. 415; [Parker C. J. in Hodgdon v. White, 11 N. H. 208, 214, 215; Scott v. Hancock, 13 Mass. 164; Byrd v. Wells, 40 Miss. 711. Where an executor allowed dividends due the estate, and never actually received by him, to be retained in satisfaction of a debt due from the testator, even where such debt was barred by the statute of limitations, he was held not to be chargeable with them. Broome v. Van Hook, 1 Redf. Sur. 444. It has, however, been held that an executor or administrator cannot legally pay a claim against the estate of the deceased, which was barred by the statute of limitations anterior to

the granting of administration. Trotter v. Trotter, 40 Miss. 704; Byrd v. Wells, 40 Miss. 711. So it has been held that an administrator cannot revive a demand against the estate, which was barred by the statute before the death of the intestate. Moore v. Parcher, 1 Bailey Ch. 195; Dickson v. Compton, 24 La. Ann. 83.]

(q) Williamson v. Naylor, 3 Y. & Coll. 211, note (a), by Lord Lyndhurst. But see, *contra*, by Bailey J. in McCulloch v. Dawes, 9 Dowl. & Ry. 43. This dictum of the latter judge was disapproved by Wood V. C. (in Hill v. Walker, 4 Kay & J. 166). Lewis v. Rumney, L. R. 4 Eq. Cas. 451. [Although it is true that the executor or administrator is not bound to plead the general statute of limitations in bar of an action to recover a debt otherwise justly due; Jackson J. in Scott v. Hancock, 13 Mass. 162, 164; Hodgdon v. White, 11 N. H. 208; Amoskeag Manufacturing Company v. Barnes, 48 N. H. 25, 29; Ritter's Appeal, 23 Penn. St. 95; Emerson v. Thompson, 16 Mass. 431; Smith's Estate, 1 Ashm. 352; Steel v. Steel, 12 Penn. St. 67; Kennedy's Appeal, 4 Penn. St. 149; Miller v. Dorsey, 9 Md. 317; 2 Kent, 416, note (c); Thayer v. Hollis, 3 Met. 369; Payne v. Pusey, 8 Bush (Ky.), 564; Chambers v. Fennemore, 4 Harr. (Md.) 368; Semmes v. Magruder, 10 Md. 242; Barnawell v. Smith, 5 Jones Eq. 168; Leigh v. Smith, 3 Ired. Eq. 442; Batson v. Murrell, 10 Humph. 301; Tuntall v. Pollard, 11 Leigh, 1; Pollard v. Seears, 28 Ala. 484; Walter v. Radcliffe,

sonal estate, after payment of the debts and legacies, be bequeathed to a residuary legatee, and several creditors, although

2 Desaus. 577; *Biddle v. Moore*, 3 Penn. St. 178; *Fritz v. Thomas*, 1 Whart. 66; *M'Farland's Estate*, 4 Penn. St. 149; but see *Wiggins v. Lovering*, 9 Missou. 262; *West v. Smith*, 8 How. (U. S.) 402, 411; *Woods v. Elliott*, 49 Miss. 168; yet he is bound in all cases to plead that statute which limits the time within which an action can be brought against him in his official capacity. The heirs-at-law and others interested have a right to insist that he shall plead it, for he stands in a place of trust, and in executing it he is to act with fidelity for their protection. *Scott v. Hancock*, 13 Mass. 162; *Hodgdon v. White*, 11 N. H. 208; *Walker v. Cheever*, 39 N. H. 428; *Amoskeag Manufacturing Co. v. Barnes*, 48 N. H. 25; *Hall v. Woodman*, 49 N. H. 295; *Lamson v. Schutt*, 4 Allen, 359, 360; *Emerson v. Thompson*, 16 Mass. 432; *Waltham Bank v. Wright*, 8 Allen, 122; *Heath v. Wells*, 5 Pick. 140; *Wiggins v. Lovering*, 9 Missou. 262; *Sugar River Bank v. Fairbank*, 49 N. H. 140. If he fails so to plead, and a judgment issues against him, it will not bind the estate of the deceased; and a levy of an execution obtained under such judgment on the real estate of the deceased would be void, as to all persons except the executor or administrator who suffered it to issue. *Thayer v. Hollis*, 3 Met. 369; *Sargent J. in Amoskeag Manufacturing Co. v. Barnes*, 48 N. H. 25, 29, 30. A sum paid by him to satisfy such judgment would not be allowed in his account. *Hodgson v. White*, 11 N. H. 216; *Stillman v. Young*, 16 Ill. 318. A promise by an executor or administrator to pay a debt of the deceased will not take the demand out of this latter statute. *Brown v. Anderson*, 13 Mass. 201; *Thompson v. Brown*, 16 Mass. 172, 178; *Gray J. in Bacon v. Pomeroy*, 104 Mass. 585; *Wells v. Child*, 12 Allen, 336; *Waltham Bank v. Wright*, *supra*. Such promise, is, however, generally held to be sufficient to avoid the effect of the general

statute of limitations. *Brown v. Anderson*, 13 Mass. 201, 203; *Emerson v. Thompson*, 16 Mass. 429; *Baxter v. Peniman*, 8 Mass. 134; *Hodgdon v. White*, 11 N. H. 210, 211, and cases cited; *Jones v. Moore*, 5 Binney, 573; *Johnson v. Beardalee*, 15 John. 3. The rule operates as well in an action against an administrator *de bonis non* as against the original executor or administrator who made the promise. *Emerson v. Thompson*, 16 Mass. 429. In *Foster v. Starkey*, 12 Cush. 324, it was expressly held that part payment of a debt, made by the administrator of the debtor, takes the case out of the general statute of limitations, although it appears that no promise was then made to pay the balance. There are, however, many cases in which it has been held that there must be an express promise by the executor or administrator to take a debt of the testator, or intestate, barred by the statute of limitations, out of its operation. See *Cayuga Bank v. Bennett*, 5 Hill, 240; *Oakes v. Mitchell*, 15 Maine, 360; *Head v. Manners*, 5 J. J. Marsh. 262; *Peck v. Botsford*, 7 Conn. 177; *Thompson v. Peter*, 12 Wheat. 565. The courts in Pennsylvania seem to go even farther than this, and hold that the personal representative of a party deceased is not precluded, even by an express promise of payment, from resorting to the statute as a defence to an action brought to recover a debt due by the estate. *Fritz v. Thomas*, 1 Whart. 66; *Reynolds v. Hamilton*, 7 Watts, 420; *Steel v. Steel*, 12 Penn. St. 64. See, also, *Knox v. M'Call*, 1 Brev. 531; *Moore v. Parcher*, 1 Bailey Eq. 195. An executor or administrator cannot maintain a petition for license to sell real estate for the payment of the debts of the deceased, if there are no debts due from the estate which can be enforced at law; as if all the debts are barred by the statute limiting the time within which an action can be brought against the executor or administrator in his official capac-

barred by the statute of limitations, commence actions against the executor, equity will not, on his refusal to plead the statute, com-

ity; *Lamson v. Schutt*, 4 Allen, 359; *Nowell v. Nowell*, 8 Greenl. 220; *Ex parte Allen*, petitioner, 15 Mass. 57; *Tarbell v. Parker*, 106 Mass. 347; *Hall v. Woodman*, 49 N. H. 304; *Scott v. Hancock*, 13 Mass. 169; *Robinson v. Hodge*, 117 Mass. 222, 225; *Ferguson v. Scott*, 49 Miss. 500; and it has been held that such license, if granted, would be void. *Heath v. Wells*, 5 Pick. 140; *Hudson v. Hulbert*, 15 Pick. 425; *Merrick J. in Lamson v. Schutt*, 4 Allen, 359, 361; *Thompson v. Brown*, 16 Mass. 172; *Thayer v. Hollis*, 3 Met. 371; *Tarbell v. Parker*, 106 Mass. 347. But *quære*, whether an order of the probate court is not valid unless vacated on appeal or in some other proceeding acting directly on the subject-matter. See *Hall v. Woodman*, 49 N. H. 295; *Mooers v. White*, 6 John. Ch. 387; *Jackson v. Robinson*, 4 Wend. 436. It was held in *Dawes v. Shed*, 15 Mass. 6, that sureties upon the bond of an administrator could not be held liable to a creditor of the estate for the amount of a judgment obtained by him in a suit commenced after the claim was barred by the statute limiting actions against executors and administrators, to which the administrator neglected to plead the statute. The same was held where the administrator appeared and pleaded the statute, and was afterwards defaulted. *Robinson v. Hodge*, 117 Mass. 222. See *Heard v. Lodge*, 20 Pick. 53, 58. In *Robinson v. Hodge*, *supra*, *Wells J.* said: "Whether sureties of an administrator could go behind a judgment rendered against his defence upon the plea of the statute set up and attempted to be maintained in good faith, we need not now consider. The report shows that the defence might and ought to have been maintained successfully, and that the administratrix did not attempt it, but allowed judgment to go by default. Such a judgment may be binding upon the administratrix personally, and perhaps upon the personal assets remaining in her

hands, if they can be reached by means of the execution. But it will not support supplementary proceedings for the appropriation of the real estate of the intestate, either by levy of the execution or by sale under license of the probate court; because it is not founded upon a valid subsisting debt for which the real estate is chargeable." *Thayer v. Hollis*, 3 Met. 369; *Lamson v. Schutt*, *supra*. "Non-payment of a judgment so obtained is not maladministration which constitutes a breach of the bond." But if the creditor in such judgment "could reach the goods and effects of the intestate in the hands of the administratrix, he might thus make the sureties liable to the distributees for the waste caused by the neglect of the administratrix, because that would be a breach of the bond." *Wells J. in Robinson v. Hodge*, 117 Mass. 225. In *Amoskeag Manuf. Co. v. Barnes*, 48 N. H. 25, 30, referring to the statute limiting the time for bringing actions against executors and administrators, *Sargent J.* said: "It is everywhere said that the executor must plead the statute, and has no right to omit to plead it, and that when he fails to do so, a judgment issues against him, which would be good against him as an executor *de son tort*, but which would not bind the estate; and no license would be granted to the executor to sell real estate of his testator to pay such judgment." *Thayer v. Hollis*, 3 Met. 371; *Ex parte Allen*, 15 Mass. 58. An executor or administrator may, however, obtain license for the sale of real estate of the deceased for the purpose of paying claims barred by the general statute of limitations, if they are admitted by him and appear to be just. *Hodgdon v. White*, 11 N. H. 208. But if, on the application for license to sell, evidence is offered to show that the demands for the payment of which the license is asked have in fact been paid, or if they are so stale that, aside from the statute of limitations, a strong presumption arises against

pel him to plead it in favor of the residuary legatee. (r) So in the administration of assets under a creditor's bill, it was held that executors were not bound to plead the statute; and if they did not, the creditor filing the bill would have a decree on behalf of himself and all other creditors, and would be paid. (s) And, accordingly, on the modern proceeding by a creditor's administration summons, if the executor does not set up the statute, the residuary legatees cannot set it up against the plaintiff, whatever may be their right as to other creditors. (t) But in *Shewen v. Vandenhorst*, (u) under the common decree in an administration suit, where the bill had been filed, and the decree obtained, by the residuary legatee, a creditor applied to prove a debt which was barred by lapse of time; and the executor refusing to interfere, the plaintiff insisted upon setting up the objection of the statute. Sir John Leach M. R. held that it was competent for the \* plaintiff, or any other person interested in the fund, to take advantage of the statute before the master, notwithstanding the refusal of the executor. And this decision was confirmed by Lord Brougham on appeal. (v) And even on a creditor's administra-

their validity, that will form a sufficient ground upon which the court in its discretion, may refuse to grant a license. *Hodgdon v. White*, *supra*; *Mooers v. White*, 6 John. Ch. 369, and cases cited; *Scott v. Hancock*, 13 Mass. 162. "Such a state of facts might furnish good reason for disallowing the amount of the administration account if the administrator had paid claims of that description out of the personal estate." Parker C. J. in *Hodgdon v. White*, 11 N. H. 215. That the power vested in the court to grant license to sell real estate for the payment of debts is discretionary, and not imperative, see, further, *Nowell v. Nowell*, 8 Greenl. 220. It has been held that the heir may resist the application of an administrator to sell real estate for the payment of debts, by showing that such debts are not a charge upon the estate by reason of being barred by the statute of limitations. *Heirs of Bond v. Smith*, 2 Ala. 660.]

(r) *Castleton v. Fanshaw*, Prec. Chanc. 100; S. C. 1 Eq. Cas. Abr. 305; 2 Eq. Cas. Abr. 254, pl. 1, 259, pl. 1.

(s) *Ex parte Dewdney*, 15 Ves. 498.

(t) *Briggs v. Wilson*, 5 De G., M. & G. 12. See, also, *Fuller v. Redman*, 26 Beav. 614. So, after decree in an administration suit, the court is not bound, on behalf of an absent party beneficially interested in the estate, to disallow claims against the estate barred by the statute, if the personal representative and such of the persons beneficially interested as are parties to the suit or have come in under the decree, do not set up the statute. *Alston v. Trollope*, L. R. 2 Eq. 205.

(u) 1 Russ. & My. 347; 2 Russ. & My. 75.

(v) See, also, *Moodie v. Bannister*, 4 Drew. 432; *Fuller v. Redman*, 26 Beav. 614; [*Partridge v. Mitchell*, 3 Edw. Ch. 180.] After decree an executor cannot exercise any discretion at all or do any act to vary the rights of the parties, and he cannot therefore give an acknowledgment to take a debt out of the statute of limitations. *Phillips v. Beal*, 32 Beav. 26.



tion summons, the *cestuis que trustent* of devised estates may set up the statute against him, though the executor should decline to do so; for they would have been necessary parties to the suit but for the chancery amendment act, and might have set up the statute by answer. (x)

Such acts of negligence, or careless administration, as defeat the rights of creditors, or legatees, or parties entitled in distribution, amount to a *devastavit*. For if persons accept the trust of executors, they must perform it; they must use due diligence, and not suffer the estate to be injured by their neglect. (y) Thus if an executor has a lease for years, determinable upon the life of J. S., which is upon a reasonable estimate worth 200*l.*, if the executor will not sell this but keeps it, and J. S. dies in a short time, yet the executor shall answer for the value of it at the time of the death of the testator; for it was his own fault that he would not sell it. (z) So if an executor delays the pay-

(x) *Briggs v. Wilson*, 5 De G., M. & G. 12. See, also, *Beeching v. Morpew*, 8 Hare, 129, where it was held, that in a creditor's bill against a husband and wife for a payment out of an estate of which the wife was administratrix, she alone might set up the statute in their joint answer. But where judgment has been recovered against an executor for a debt due by the testator, the statute cannot afterwards be set up in an administration suit. *Hunter v. Baxter*, 3 Giff. 214. [It has been held to be clearly the duty of an administrator to plead the statute of limitations, where the claim is barred in the lifetime of the intestate, or is so stale as to raise a presumption of payment from lapse of time; or where the statutory prerequisites to its prosecution have not been complied with. *Rector v. Conway*, 20 Ark. 79; *Rogers v. Wilson*, 13 Ark. 507; *Patterson v. Cobb*, 4 Florida, 481.]

(y) *Tebbs v. Carpenter*, 1 Madd. 298; [*Dean v. Rathbone*, 15 Ala. 328; *Harris v. Parker*, 41 Ala. 604.] See *Eaves v. Hickson*, 30 Beav. 136, where trustees were held liable who had paid over the trust fund to wrong persons, trusting to a forged marriage certificate. See, also, *Hopgood v. Parkin*, L. R. 11 Eq. 74, where a trustee

was held liable for a loss of a trust fund, occasioned by the negligence of his solicitor. [But see *Rayner v. Pearsall*, 3 John. Ch. 578; *Calhoun's Estate*, 6 Watts, 185. Where an executor or administrator acts in good faith, he will not be charged with the loss of property belonging to the estate, except upon clear proof of his neglect of duty. *Williams v. Maitland*, 1 Ired. Eq. 92; *Perry v. Maxwell*, 2 Dev. Ch. 488; *Whitted v. Webb*, 2 Dev. & Bat. Ch. 442; *Doud v. Sanders*, 1 Harp. Ch. 277; *Webb v. Bellinger*, 2 Desaus. 482; *Huson v. Wallace*, 1 Rich. Ch. 1; *Cartwright v. Cartwright*, 4 Hayw. 134; *Calhoun's Estate*, 6 Watts, 185; *Voorhees v. Stoothoff*, 11 N. J. (Law) 145; *post*, 1806, note (g); *Nyce's Estate*, 5 Watts & S. 254; *Noble v. Jones*, 35 Texas, 692. He is entitled to credit for notes lost without his negligence; *Stoug v. Wilkson*, 14 Misou. 116; and for other funds which have become worthless without his default. *Pitts v. Singleton*, 44 Ala. 363. In order to charge an executor or administrator with loss on the ground of his negligence, the neglect must be proved. *Deas v. Spaan*, 1 Harp. Ch. 176.]

(z) *Phillips v. Phillips*, 2 Freem. 12; *Taylor v. Tabrum*, 7 Sim. 28. See *ante*,

ment of a debt \*payable on demand with interest, and suffers judgment for the principal and interest incurred after the testator's death, this is a *devastavit* for the interest, unless the executor can show that the assets were insufficient to discharge the debt immediately. (a) And where the executor permits debts carrying interest at 5l. per cent, to run on, when he had in his hands a fund to pay them, he shall be charged with interest at that rate. (b) But it must be observed, that where there is a sufficiency of assets for the payment of debts, executors may pay simple contract debts, not bearing interest, before specialty debts bearing interest, if not objected to by the specialty creditors; and the legatees are not at liberty to complain of the order of payment. (c)

Again, if the executor, by his delay in commencing an action, has enabled the debtor of his testator to protect himself under a plea of the statute of limitations, this amounts to a *devastavit*. (d) So where the testator had lent out money on bond, and the executor during several years made one application, by an attorney, to the obligor, but brought no action against him, Lord Thurlow held that the executor should be liable for the sum due, as having not been got in by reason of his neglect, although it did not appear whether the debt was or was not recoverable. (e)

1669; *Fry v. Fry*, 27 Beav. 144. But see, also, *Selby v. Bowie*, 4 Giff. 300. [A sale of bonds of an estate by an executor, at a large discount, when the circumstances of the estate do not require it, renders the executor liable for the loss. *Pinchard v. Woods*, 8 Grattan, 140.]

(a) *Seaman v. Everard*, 2 Lev. 40; Com. Dig. Admon. I. 1; Bac. Abr. Exors. L. 1. So if an executor may save the penalty of a bond by payment of the less sum specified in the condition, or by other performance of the condition, and he neglect to do so, it will be a *devastavit* in him, if he have assets. 1 Saund. 333 a, note (7) to *Hancock v. Prowd*:

(b) *Hall v. Hallet*, 1 Cox, 134, 138; *Dornford v. Dornford*, 12 Ves. 130, note (29), 2d ed. See, also, *Bate v. Robins*, 32 Beav. 73; [*Forward v. Forward*, 6 Allen, 494, 499.] See *infra*, 1743, 1744 *et seq.*, as to charging executors with interest.

(c) *Turner v. Turner*, 1 Jac. & W. 39.

(d) By Holt C. J. in *Hayward v. Kinsey*, 12 Mod. 573. But see *East v. East*, 5 Hare, 348. [But it is otherwise, where the delay is suffered in consequence of a mistake of the law, without any fraud or wilful default imputable to the executor or administrator. *Thomas v. White*, 3 Litt. (Ky.) 177.]

(e) *Lowson v. Copeland*, 2 Bro. C. C. 156. [But see *Ivey v. Coleman*, 42 Ala. 409.] In *Clack v. Holland*, 19 Beav. 271, 272, Romilly M. R. said that where it is the duty of an executor to obtain payment of a sum of money, he is exonerated, though he has taken no steps at all, provided it appears that if he had done so, they would have been, or there is reasonable ground for believing they would have been, ineffectual. But in such a case, it should seem that it lies on the executor to prove that, if he had taken proper

So where, for more \*than three years, the executors permitted money to remain due on bond to their testator, without inquiring into the circumstances and situation of the obligor, or calling upon him to pay in the money, Lord Alvanley held, that, on the obligor's becoming bankrupt, the executors were responsible. (f) So where executors had suffered rent to be in arrear for several years, without taking any legal steps, by distress or otherwise, Sir Thomas Plumer held that they should be charged with such arrears. (g) And it was held by Lord Cottenham, that executors

measures to obtain payment, they would have failed. *Stiles v. Guy*, 16 Sim. 230; [*Mitchell v. Trotter*, 7 Grattan, 136; *Nelson v. Page*, 7 Grattan, 160. An executor or administrator is not bound to attempt the collection of bad or doubtful debts. *Succession of Pool*, 14 La. Ann. 677; *Griswold v. Chandler*, 5 N. H. 492; *Sanborn v. Goodhue*, 28 N. H. 48; *Hepburn v. Hepburn*, 2 Bradf. Sur. 74; *Cook v. Cook*, 29 Md. 538; *Bowen v. Montgomery*, 48 Ala. 353; *ante*, 986, note (m). An executor or administrator who fails to collect the debts of the estate he represents, as they become due, or collects the same in illegal or worthless funds, is guilty of a *devastavit*, and is subject to removal, unless a sufficient excuse is shown for such acts. *Oglesby v. Howard*, 43 Ala. 144. See *Moore's Estate*, 1 Tuck. N. Y. Sur. 41. And he is liable for the money which he fails to collect through his negligence. *Abercrombie v. Skinner*, 42 Ala. 633.]

(f) *Powell v. Evans*, 5 Ves. 832. See, also, *Atty. Gen. v. Higham*, 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 634, and *post*, 1815. [An administrator is chargeable who neglects several years to collect a note when it might have been collected by proper diligence. *Long's Estate*, 6 Watts, 46; *Scarborough v. Watkins*, 9 B. Mon. 540; *Stark v. Hunton*, 2 Green. Ch. 300; *Schultz v. Pulver*, 11 Wend. 361; *Cartwright v. Cartwright*, 4 Hayw. 134.]

(g) *Tebbs v. Carpenter*, 1 Madd. 290. See *Buxton v. Buxton*, 1 My. & Cr. 95, by Sir C. Pepys M. R.; *post*, 1816; *Ratcliffe v. Winch*, 17 Beav. 217; [*Shaffer's*

*Estate*, 46 Penn. St. 131; *Charlton's Estate*, 34 Penn. St. 473; *Long's Estate*, 6 Watts, 46; *Southall v. Taylor*, 14 Grattan, 269; *Schultz v. Pulver*, 11 Wend. 363; S. C. 3 Paige, 182; *Smith v. Hurd*, 8 Sm. & M. 682; *Brandon v. Judah*, 7 Ind. 545; *Cartwright v. Cartwright*, 4 Hayw. (Tenn.) 134; *Cooley v. Vansyckle*, 14 N. J. Eq. 496; *Holcomb v. Holcomb*, 11 N. J. Eq. 281; *Jennings v. Weeks*, 1 Rice (S. Car.), 453; *Scarborough v. Watkins*, 9 B. Mon. 540; *Brazeale v. Brazeale*, 9 Ala. 491; *Moore v. Beauchamp*, 4 B. Mon. 71. It has been held that an executor or administrator is responsible for loss by the insolvency of a debtor to the estate, only when he has failed to exercise the same care that a prudent man would exercise in the conduct of his own affairs. *Glover v. Glover*, 1 McMullan Ch. 153; *O'Dell v. Young*, 1 McMullan, 155; *Taveare v. Ball*, 1 McCord, 456; *Campbell v. Miller*, 38 Geo. 304; *King v. King*, 37 Geo. 205; *Dean v. Rathbone*, 15 Ala. 328; *Rayner v. Pearsall*, 3 John. Ch. 578; *Mikell v. Mikell*, 5 Rich. Eq. 442; *Bryant v. Russell*, 23 Pick. 546; *Twaddell's Appeal*, 5 Penn. St. 15; *Sollee v. Croft*, 7 Rich. Eq. 46; *Gray v. Lynch*, 8 Gill, 403; *Neff's Appeal*, 57 Penn. St. 91. He is not chargeable for the loss of a note belonging to the estate of the deceased, by not immediately suing it, when the maker continued in good credit, and no bad faith or gross negligence was shown on the part of the executor or administrator. *Keller's Appeal*, 8 Penn. St. 288. See *Estate of Secondo Bosio*, 2 Ashm. 437; *Deas v.*

are equally chargeable with neglect in allowing a part of the assets to remain outstanding in an improper state of investment, whether the person in whose hands it is so outstanding be a co-executor or a stranger; and notwithstanding the will contains the usual indemnity clause. (*h*)

There has been occasion to discuss, in a previous part of this work, (*i*) the question of the liability of an executor or administrator, in respect of assets come fully into his possession and hands, and afterwards lost to the estate. (*k*) It \* was there stated that an executor or administrator has been considered to stand in the condition of a gratuitous bailee, with respect to whom the law is, that he shall not be charged without some default in him. But this, as it appears from the judgment of Lord Ellenborough, in *Crosse v. Smith*, (*l*) must not be understood of the ex-  
at law:  
 tent of the liability of an executor or administrator at law, but

*Devastavit*  
by loss of  
the assets:

[See stat.  
22 & 23  
Vict. c. 85,  
s. 81, *post*,  
1823.]

Spann, 1 Harper (S. Car.), 176; Ruggles v. Sherman, 44 John. 446; Hartsfield v. Allen, 7 Jones (Law), 439; Rubottom v. Morrow, 24 Ind. 202; Cook v. Cook, 29 Md. 538; Neff's Appeal, 57 Penn. St. 91; Kee v. Kee, 2 Grattan, 116; Mikell v. Mikell, 5 Rich. (S. Car.) Eq. 220. Nor is the executor liable for indulging a debtor to the estate, where the indulgence is granted with the acquiescence of the distributees. Perry v. Wooten, 5 Humph. 524. But an administrator, who neglected to recover property belonging to the intestate's estate, from persons who had it in their possession, in consequence of a bond of indemnity, given him by such person, against all acts or omissions to act, as such administrator, was held liable for the amount lost to the estate by his misconduct. Holmes v. Bridgman, 37 Vt. 28. An executor or administrator will be held chargeable with the value of personal property belonging to the estate, and lost through his negligence, although it never came into his possession. Tuttle v. Robinson, 33 N. H. 104, 120, 121. But he cannot be charged with a *devastavit* in regard to property of which it does not appear that he ever knew the existence. Jones v. Ward, 10 Yerger, 160.]

(*h*) *Styles v. Guy*, 1 Mac. & G. 422; *post*, 1828. See, also, *Mucklow v. Fuller* Jacob. 198; *Stiles v. Guy*, 4 Y. & Coll. 571; *Dix v. Burford*, 19 Beav. 409. But see, also, *Paddon v. Richardson*, 7 De G., M. & G. 563. [If an executor or administrator receives, as assets of the estate, a note secured by mortgage on property more than sufficient to pay it, and makes no effort to enforce the security, he is chargeable with the amount of the note, upon the insolvency of the maker, unless he furnishes satisfactory reasons for his failure to do so. *Willis v. Willis*, 16 Ala. 652.]

(*i*) *Ante*, 1668, 1669.

(*k*) In a case where the executor had lost a bond due to the testator, the court inclined to charge the executor with the debt; but for the present directed only that the defendant should prosecute a suit brought by him in equity against the obligor with effect, in order to recover the money due upon the bond that was lost. *Goodfellow v. Burchett*, 2 Vern. 299. It is now established, that a lost bond may be put in suit at law. *Read v. Brookman*, 3 T. R. 151; 1 Saund. 9, note (*a*).

(*l*) 7 East, 258.

merely in equity. His lordship there observed, that it had been suggested in argument, that an executor was to be considered as a mere ordinary bailee; but that this was an idea probably then for the first time suggested in a court of law. (*m*) "As no case at law," continued the learned judge, "has yet decided that an executor once become fully responsible, by actual receipt of a part of his testator's property, for the due administration thereof, can found his discharge in respect thereof, as against a creditor (*m*<sup>1</sup>) seeking satisfaction out of the testator's assets, either on the score of inevitable accident, as destruction by fire, loss by robbery, or the like, or reasonable confidence disappointed, or loss by any of the various means which afford excuse to ordinary agents and bailees, in cases of loss without any negligence on their part, (*n*) I say as no such case in respect to executors has yet occurred in a court of law, we are not, from the particular hardship of the present case, authorized to make such a precedent in favor of this defendant."

However, a more lenient doctrine has, at all events, been established in the courts of equity, (*o*) as will fully appear in equity: the course of this section.

Thus, if any goods of the testator are stolen from the possession of an executor, or from the possession of a third person loss by theft or casualty: to whose custody they have been delivered by the \* executor, or are lost by casualty, as by accidental fire, (*p*) the executor shall not, in equity, be charged with these as assets. (*q*)

Again, where an executor puts out the money of his testator, though without the indemnity of a decree, upon a real loss by invalid security: security, which there was no reason then to suspect, but

(*m*) See, however, *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 235, 14th ed.

(*m*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Verner's Estate*, 6 Watts, 250; post, 1836. The liabilities of executors with respect to creditors have been held to be more stringent than in respect to legatees. *M'Nair's Appeal*, 4 Rawle, 148.]

(*n*) But see *Wentw. ubi supra*; Com. Dig. Assets, D.; ante, 1668, 1669.

(*o*) See the judgment of Lord Eldon in *Massey v. Banner*, 1 Jac. & W. 248.

(*p*) *Croft v. Lyndsey*, 2 Freem. 1. It seems that executors are not bound either to insure or to continue the insurance of their testator. *Bailey v. Gould*, coram Al-

derson B. 4 Y. & Coll. 221. [So an administrator is not required to insure the estate of his intestate. *Dortch v. Dortch*, 71 N. Car. 224. But see *Tuttle v. Robinson*, 33 N. H. 104.]

(*q*) *Jones v. Lewis*, 2 Ves. sen. 240; [Mikell v. Mikell, 5 Rich. Eq. 220; *Rubottom v. Morrow*, 24 Ind. 202; *Estate of Secondo Bosio*, 2 Ashm. 437; *Neff's Appeal*, 57 Penn. St. 91; *Campbell v. Miller*, 38 Geo. 304; *Furman v. Coe*, 1 Caines Cas. 96; *Fudge v. Durn*, 51 Missou. 264; *State v. Meagher*, 44 Missou. 356; *Stevens v. Gage*, 55 N. H. 175; 2 Central Law Jour. 589.]

afterwards such security proves bad, the executor is not accountable for the loss, any more than he would have been entitled to the profits, had it continued good. (r)

But the rule is, never to permit a trustee or executor *after a decree* to account, to lay out money on mortgage, or to deal with the assets for the purposes of investment, without the leave of the court. Where, therefore, the executor, after a decree, and consequently after he might have had the directions of the court, chooses to lay out the money on mortgage, if the transaction should appear to be for the benefit of the party entitled, the court will give him the advantage of it; but if otherwise, will consider the fund as money, and make the executor bring it into court. (s)

With respect to loans upon personal security, the court of king's bench, in *Webster v. Spencer*, (t) was of opinion that an executor, who had lent out, on the security of a promissory note, money belonging to the testator, but not wanted for the immediate uses of the will, was not guilty of a *devastavit*, provided he exercised a fair and reasonable \*discretion on the subject. (u) Nevertheless,

(r) *Brown v. Litton*, 1 P. Wms. 141. But see *Norbury v. Norbury*, 4 Madd. 191. On the general question as to the precautions which an executor ought to take, and the extent to which he may properly lend, with reference to the value of the property to be mortgaged, see *Stickney v. Sewell*, 1 My. & Cr. 8, 15; *Macleod v. Annealey*, 16 Beav. 600; *Phillipson v. Gatty*, 7 Hare, 516; *Farrar v. Barracrough*, 2 Sm. & G. 231, 235; *Ingle v. Partridge*, 34 Beav. 411; [*Bogart v. Van Velsor*, 4 Edw. Ch. 718. When an executor or administrator has money of the estate in his hands, and there are no reasons why he should retain it, and he has an opportunity of paying it over to the legatees or the next of kin, he should do so, and will not be heard to say that he had loaned it out for the sake of interest. But if there are reasons why he should retain it in order to meet the exigencies of his office, or to pay debts, if established, or because there was no one here authorized to receive it, he is not only permitted but encouraged to invest it in interest-bearing securities, for the benefit of the fund. *Dortch v. Dortch*, 71 N. Car. 224, 226; *Wood v. Myrick*, 17 Minn. 408.

In Massachusetts, the probate court may authorize the money belonging to an estate in the process of settlement to be deposited in any bank or institution in the state, empowered to receive such deposits, upon such interest as said bank or institution may agree to pay. St. 1873, c. 224, § 1. And so by the same statute, the probate court may direct the temporary investment of such money in securities to be approved by the judge.]

(s) *Widdowson v. Duck*, 2 Meriv. 494, 498, 499. [*See State v. Johnson*, 7 Blackf. 529. An administrator is accountable for money left in the hands of a purchaser, under an order of sale from the court, if it is lost. *Dillabaugh's Estate*, 4 Watts, 177; *S. P. Betts v. Blackwell*, 2 Stew. & P. 373; *Palmer*, appellant, 1 Doug. 422. So, if he takes the purchaser's note without security. *King v. King*, 3 John. Ch. 552; *Davis v. Yerby*, 1 Sm. & M. Ch. 508.]

(t) 3 B. & Ald. 360.

(u) In this case, one of two executors had lent the money in question on the promissory note, and the question was, whether both the executors were properly

although the lending itself may not amount to a legal *devastavit*, yet the rule is now completely established in equity, that an executor or administrator, lending money of the deceased upon bond, promissory note, or other personal security, is guilty of a breach of trust, (x) and shall be personally answerable if the security prove defective. (x<sup>1</sup>)

If, however, the will directs the executors to lay out the fund in real or personal securities, they would be justified, as against legatees, using a sound discretion, and fairly and honestly lending it to a person whom they considered responsible, at a reasonable interest. (y) But the rule is different, it should seem, as against creditors. (z) And though the will gives the executors power to lend on personal security, this does not enable them, even as against legatees, to *accommodate* a trader with a loan on his bond. (a)

It must further be observed, that where a testator empowers his executors to lend money on personal security, he must be taken to rely upon the united vigilance of them

joined as plaintiffs in an action to recover it. It was assumed, that if the loan had been a *devastavit*, the executor who was the lender ought to have sued alone in his individual character. But see the observations of Bayley J. in *Clark v. Hougham*, 2 B. & C. 155; *ante*, 879. [See *Moore v. Beauchamp*, 4 B. Mon. 71.]

(x) *Terry v. Terry*, Prec. Chanc. 273; *S. C. Gilb. Eq. Rep.* 10; *Ryder v. Bickerton*, 3 Swanst. 80, note; *S. C.* 1 Eden, 149, note; *Adye v. Feuilliteau*, 1 Cox, 24; *S. C.* 3 Swanst. 84, note; *Holmes v. Dring*, 1 Cox, 1; *Wilkes v. Steward*, Coop. 6; *Vigrass v. Binfield*, 3 Madd. 62; *Walker v. Symonds*, 3 Swanst. 63, overruling *Harden v. Parsons*, 1 Eden, 145; *Bacon v. Clark*, 3 My. & Cr. 294. [See the discussion of the subject of the securities in which investments should be made, in *King v. Talbot*, 40 N. Y. 76. See, also, *Thornton v. Smiley*, Breese, 14; *Moore v. Hamilton*, 4 Florida, 112.]

(x<sup>1</sup>) [As to the liability of executors and administrators for making unauthorized loans of the funds of the estate, see *Johnson v. Maples*, 49 Ill. 101; *Wells v. Grigsby*, 42 Ala. 473; *McElroy v. Thompson*, 42 Ala. 656.]

(y) *Forbes v. Ross*, 2 Cox, 116. [A power given to executors to change investments of personal estate, as may be thought most advantageous for the estate, will authorize the executors to dispose of an unproductive and constantly depreciating stock at less than par, although the testator expressed a wish that that stock should not be sold for less than par, unless thought necessary. *Stephens v. Milnor*, 24 N. J. Eq. 358. Where executors are directed by the will to place money at interest for a stipulated time, by making a deposit of it in bank or to loan upon mortgage, they have a discretion to loan it for less periods than the whole time named, and to re-loan it from time to time, and change the securities, as they may deem best for the parties interested. *Miller v. Proctor*, 20 Ohio St. 442.]

(z) See *Doyle v. Blake*, 2 Sch. & Lef. 239, 240; [*post*, 1836.]

(a) *Langston v. Ollivant*, Coop. 33. See, further, as to *devastavit* by suffering money to remain in the hands of bankers, &c. which, according to the directions of the trust, should have been invested in a particular mode. *Bacon v. Clark*, 3 My. & Cr. 294; *Lowry v. Fulton*, 9 Sim. 115.

\*all, with respect to the solvency of the borrowers. If one of them lends to the other, this object is defeated; consequently such a loan is a breach of trust, and a misappropriation of the fund; and if any mischief arises to the estate of the testator therefrom, the executors will be liable. (b) Accordingly, in *Stickney v. Sewell*, (c) two executors were empowered by will to lend money on government, real, or personal security. One of them, in 1815, lent part of the fund to the other executor and his partner in trade, upon mortgage. The mortgagors became bankrupts in 1831, and then the mortgaged property, which consisted in part of a windmill, a watermill, and a house in a town, being sold, produced considerably less than the sum advanced. And it was held by Sir C. Pepys M. R. that the executors were liable for the deficiency.

However, as it will presently appear, (d) an executor is not justified in unnecessarily keeping his testator's money dead in his hands; and therefore, if the exigencies of <sup>loss by fall</sup> of stocks; his office do not require otherwise, the executor should invest the unemployed money in government securities, taking care to lay it out in that fund which the court of chancery adopts, viz, the three per cent. consols. (e) The rule has been that if an executor lays out the testator's money in the three per cents., he is not liable for the fall of stocks. (f) \*But if he invests <sup>by not investing in</sup> it in any other fund, which afterwards sinks in value, <sup>the three</sup> the loss will be thrown on him, although there be no <sup>per cents.:</sup>

(b) — *Walker*, 5 Russ. 7; *Gleadow v. Atkin*, 2 Cr. & Jerv. 548, 555; S. C. 2 Tyrwh. 593. But if the one should give a bond to the other, to save him harmless from the consequences of such a breach of trust, the bond would be valid at law. *Warwick v. Richardson*, 10 M. & W. 284.

(c) 1 My. & Cr. 8.

(d) *Post*, 1815.

(e) *Holland v. Hughes*, 16 Ves. 114; *Tebbe v. Carpenter*, 1 Madd. 306; *Norbury v. Norbury*, 4 Madd. 191. Where a trustee has trust money in his hands, which he is authorized to lay out in the public funds or on real security, he is justified, pending the necessary delay in completing an anticipated mortgage, in investing the money in exchequer bills. *Matthews v. Brise*, 6 Beav. 239.

(f) *Peat v. Crane*, 2 Dick. 499, note; *Franklin v. Frith*, 3 Bro. C. C. 434; *Howe v. Lord Dartmouth*, 7 Ves. 150; 4 Madd. 306; 3 My. & Cr. 496. So if he invests money in the three per cents., and duly appropriates the same for the benefit of a legatee, the executor shall not be liable for the fall of stocks. *Ex parte Champion*, cited in *Hutcheson v. Hammond*, 3 Bro. C. C. 147; *Fonbl. Treat. Eq. bk. 2, c. 7, s. 6*, note (p). But it is otherwise where the appropriation is unduly made. Thus where a legacy was left to A. on marrying with consent, and, till marriage, interest to be paid at three per cent.; and the executrix laid out a sum equal to the legacy, and conveyed to trustees in trust to pay the legacy with three per cent. interest, and to pay the surplus interest to her; it

[1810] [1811]



*mala fides* on his part. (g) On the other hand, if any profit happen by the rise of the stock in which the executor has laid out the money, he shall not have the benefit, but it shall accrue to the estate of his testator. (h)

And it should seem, that if the testator died, leaving stock in other funds than the three per cents., it was the duty of the executor to transfer such stock into the latter fund. (i)

But now by stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 32 (which by stat. 23 stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 38, s. 12, is to operate retrospectively), a trustee, executor, or administrator may invest the trust on real securities in any part of the United Kingdom, or on the stock of the bank of England or Ireland, or in East India stock (unless he be expressly forbidden by the instrument \*creating the trust), provided the investment be reasonable and proper. (j) Again, by stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 11: c. 38, s. 11, when a general order shall have been made under the 10th section as to investment of cash under the control of the court, it shall be lawful for trustees, executors, or administrators having power to invest their trust funds upon government securities or upon parliamentary stocks, funds, or securities, to invest such trust funds in any of the stocks, funds, or securities in or upon which by such general order cash under the control of the court may be invested. (k) And by stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s.

was holden that this was not a good appropriation, and, the stocks having fallen in value, that the executrix's estate should make it good. *Cooper v. Douglas*, 2 Bro. C.C. 232. See *ante*, 1401. [An executor at the time of the enactment of statutes of the United States making treasury notes a legal tender for payment of debts, was not bound thereupon to convert money in his hands into coin, nor thereafter to require payment in coin of debts due to the estate; nor was he guilty of maladministration in receiving and paying treasury notes as money in the execution of his trust; nor could he be required to account in coin for the assets. *Jackson v. Chase*, 98 Mass. 286. See *Glenn v. Glenn*, 41 Ala. 571; *Shaw v. Coble*, 63 N. Car. 377; *Succession of Lagarde*, 20 La. Ann. 148.]

(g) *Hancom v. Allen*, 2 Dick. 498; *Howe v. Lord Dartmouth*, 7 Ves. 150; 3

My. & Cr. 497. See, also, *Gordon v. Bowden*, 6 Madd. 342. He will not be answerable for any further loss than was occasioned by his buying the other stock instead of the three per cents. *Hynes v. Redington*, 1 Jones & Lat. 589. It may be doubted whether, where trustees have the power of investing moneys in government securities, they are absolutely bound to select three per cents. for that purpose. See *Angell v. Dawson*, 3 Y. & Coll. 316, per *Alderson B.*; 1 De G., M. & G. 255, 256, by Lord Cranworth.

(h) *Phayre v. Perce*, 3 Dow. 128.

(i) 7 Ves. 161, 162; 16 Ves. 114.

(j) See *Cockburn v. Peel*, 3 De G., F. & J. 170.

(k) By general order promulgated February, 1861, cash under the control of the court may be invested in bank stock, not only in three per cent. consols, but also in

25, trustees having trust money in their hands, which it is their duty to invest at interest, may, at their discretion, invest the same in any of the parliamentary stocks or public funds, or in government securities, and may call in trust funds invested in any other securities, and invest them on any such securities, and may from time to time vary any such investments for others of the same nature, provided that no such investment (except in the three per cent. consols) shall be made where there is a person entitled in possession to receive the income for his life, or for a term of years determinable with his life, or for any greater estate, without his consent in writing. But by sect. 34, the provisions of this act shall extend only to persons entitled or acting under a deed or will or other instrument executed after the passing of the act (28th August 1860). Since the passing of these statutes executors are justified in allowing money invested in bank stock and East India stock (*l*) to remain as *interim* investments on those securities, although the will directs a positive conversion \* and investment in the public stocks or funds of Great Britain, until the whole can be invested in land. (*m*)

stat. 23 &  
24 Vict. c.  
145, s. 25:  
in what  
stock, &c.  
invest-  
ments of  
trust funds  
may be  
made:

Again, it has already appeared, (*n*) that where personal property is bequeathed for life with remainder over, and not specifically, it is the duty of the executor, with certain exceptions, to convert it into three per cents.; and the tenant for life is entitled only upon that principle. In the case of *Dimes v. Scott*, (*o*) a testator gave the residue of his personal estate to trustees, directing them to convert it into money, and invest the proceeds in government or real securities, of which they were to stand possessed, upon trust for A. during her life, and after her death, for B. The trustees permitted a share, which the testator had in an Indian loan, bearing interest at 10% per cent., to remain for several years on that security, during which time they paid to A. the interest at 10% per cent., which it yielded annually; and the loan being afterwards paid off, they invested the money in the three per cents., at a time when the funds were so low that the amount of

conse-  
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for life  
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cents.:

East India stock, exchequer bills, and two and a half per cent. annuities, and upon mortgage of freehold and copyhold estates respectively in England and Wales.

(*l*) See stat. 30 & 31 Vict. c. 132, as to what is meant by "East India Stock."

(*m*) *Hume v. Richardson*, 31 L. J. Ch. 713.

(*n*) *Ante*, 1394.

(*o*) 4 Rusq. 195.

stock purchased were considerably greater than if the conversion had taken place at the end of a year from the testator's death. And it was held by Lord Gifford that the tenant for life was not entitled to the actual interest which the money yielded while it remained on the Indian security, but only to the dividends of so much three per cent. stock as would have been purchased with it at the end of a year from the testator's death; that the trustees ought to be charged with the whole of the stock actually purchased, and all the sums actually received in respect of the Indian rate of interest; and they ought to be allowed in their discharge, as payments to the tenant for life, not the sums which they had, in fact, paid her, but only a sum equal to what she would have received for dividends if the money had been transferred from the Indian security and invested in the three per cent. stock at the end of a year from the testator's \* death. And this decision was confirmed, on appeal, by Lord Lyndhurst. In the case of *Mackenzie v. Taylor*, (*p*) where the testator gave his residuary personal estate to his executors, upon trust, as soon as convenient after his death, to convert into money and invest the same, and the executors allowed it to be enjoyed in specie by Mrs. M., the tenant for life, as long as she lived, but three years after her death they accounted for the value and paid it into court; it was held by Lord Langdale that they ought to pay interest at four per cent. from her death to the day of such payment. In *Wightwick v. Lord*, (*q*) in a case where the will gave no specific directions as to the payments of debts, the executor, who was also the ultimate residuary legatee, did not ascertain and secure the residue at the end of the year, but worked part of the property (a coal mine) to a profit for several years, when it ceased to be of any value; it was held, on a bill at the suit of a person having a charge for life on the residue, that the executor was not entitled to postpone the sale of the property to the prejudice of such person, and that having postponed it, he was chargeable with the value of the mine at the end of the year from the testator's death with interest thereon, and that that value must be calculated as constituted of the aggregate of the annual profits derived from the mine in all the subsequent years till it became unproductive, such annual profits to be treated as deferred payments.

(*p*) 7 Beav. 467.

(*q*) 6 H. L. Cas. 217.

But in *Baud v. Fardell* (r) it was held that an executrix, who was also tenant for life under a will directing the residuary estate to be sold and the proceeds invested in government or other good securities, was not liable for not converting into consols a sum of navy 5l. per cents. forming part of the residuary estate; for she had a discretion expressly reposed in her as to the nature of the investment.

Where trustees are bound by the terms of their trust to \*invest the money in the public funds, and instead of doing so, they retain the money in their hands, or invest it upon an insufficient security, the *cestuis que trust* may elect to charge them either with the amount of the money, or with the amount of the stock which they might have purchased with the money. (s) Where, however, the trustees are not bound to invest the money in the public funds, or in any specific security, but by the terms of the trust have a discretion to invest it in various ways, the authorities were conflicting on the question whether, if the trustees fail to invest as prescribed, the *cestuis que trust* can claim to charge them with the value of some particular security that might have been obtained, or whether they are merely chargeable with the whole amount of the trust fund, together with interest. (t) But this question has been settled in favor of the latter view by the decision of the lords justices in *Robinson v. Robinson*. (u)

consequences of retaining in hand instead of investing; or of investing on a deficient security: [See stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, post, 1828.]

This consideration leads to the question, how far an executor or administrator is liable, in respect of losses occasioned by not calling in the money of the testator already invested upon securities. Executors ought not, without great reason, to permit money to remain upon personal security longer than is absolutely necessary. Accordingly, in *Powell v. Evans*, executors were charged with a loss caused by neglecting to call in money lent by the testator on bond. (v) So,

loss by not calling in money on securities, or in hands of banker:

(r) 7 De G., M. & G. 628.

(s) *Shepherd v. Moulds*, 4 Hare, 503, 504; *Pride v. Fooks*, 2 Beav. 430; 1 De G., M. & G. 256; [*Blauvelt v. Ackerman*, 5 C. E. Green, 141; *Darling v. Hammer*, 5 C. E. Green, 220; *McElhenny's Appeal*, 46 Penn. St. 347; *Ihmsen's Appeal*, 43 Penn. St. 471.]

(t) *Hockley v. Bantock*, 1 Russ. 141;

VOL. III.

17

*Watts v. Girdlestone*, 6 Beav. 188; *Ames v. Parkinson*, 7 Beav. 379, were in favor of the former view. *Marsh v. Hunter*, 6 Madd. 295, and *Shepherd v. Moulds*, 4 Hare, 500, of the latter.

(u) 1 De G., M. & G. 247. See, also, *Knott v. Cottee*, 16 Beav. 80, 81, by Romilly M. R.

(v) 5 Ves. 839. See, also, *ante*, 1806;

in *Moyle v. Moyle*, (x) executors and trustees \* who, for upwards of a year after the testator's death, allowed a considerable portion of the assets to be unproductive in the hands of a banker who failed, were, under the circumstances, charged with the loss. (y) So executors were held personally liable in respect of the loss to the testator's estate of a sum outstanding on personal security, although the security was that of a bond of the testator's solicitor, and the money had been invested in that security by the testator some years before his death, and by his will he directed that his trustees should get in his outstanding estate "as soon as conveniently might be" after his decease. (z) But in *Buxton v. Buxton*, (a) an executor who allowed part of a testator's assets to remain invested in Mexican bonds for a year and seven months after the testator's death, and eventually sold the bonds at a lower price than might have been obtained by a sale at an earlier period, but who appeared to have acted throughout with diligence and good faith, was held, by Sir C. C. Pepys M. R., under the circumstances, not to be liable for the loss consequent on his not having sold them sooner. (a<sup>1</sup>) And his honor further held that a difference of opinion between two executors, as to the propriety of converting the assets at a particular period, followed by a demand made by one of them upon the other, to concur in effecting an immediate conversion, does not deprive the latter of the right to exercise his own discretion, or render him liable for the loss that may arise from the delay consequent on his

4 My. & Cr. 496, and *Eagleton v. Kingston*, 8 Ves. 466, 467; *Atty. Gen. v. Higham*, 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 634. The money, when called in, should be invested in the three per cents. or other authorized fund, if there is no present occasion for it. See 7 Ves. 149, 150. This seems a sufficient answer to the inquiry of Lord Camden, in *Orr v. Newton*, 2 Cox, 276.

(x) 2 Russ. & My. 710.

(y) See *Johnson v. Newton*, 11 Hare, 168, 169.

(z) *Bullock v. Wheatley*, 1 Coll. 130.

(a) 1 My. & Cr. 80.

(a<sup>1</sup>) [*McRae v. McRae*, 3 Bradf. Sur. 199. Where an executor negligently delayed to sell certain stock belonging to the testator's estate, until it had depreciated in value, and then suffered it to be sold

under execution at a price much below its former value; this was held to be waste and unfaithful administration, for which he was liable on his probate bond. *Brazer v. Clark*, 5 Pick. 96. See *Boyd v. Boyd*, 3 Grattan, 118. If an executor or administrator sells the goods of the deceased, under authority of the probate court, and conducts the sale in good faith, any loss upon the goods must fall upon those interested in the estate; but if he manages the sale in a manner likely to injure the sale of the goods, or is guilty of fraud and collusion in the sale, he is to be accountable for the appraised value of the goods, and the sale must be considered as made on his own account and at his own expense, and the loss will be his own. *Brackett v. Tillotson*, 4 N. H. 208.]

declining to comply with the demand. (b) Where executors have neglected to realize assets which are outstanding on an improper investment, there is no fixed period at which the loss is to be calculated. It depends on the particular nature of the property and the evidence affecting it. (c)

\* It is not the duty of an executor to call in money invested on real security, where no risk is apparent; nor are executors bound to convert leasehold property into three per cent. stock, unless under particular circumstances. (d).

Generally speaking, if an executor appoints another to receive the money of his testator, and he receives it, it is the same thing as if the executor himself had actually received it, and will be assets in his hands; and, consequently, appointing another to receive, who will not repay, is a *devastavit*. (e) Thus, in a case where the will directed that one Edward Pistor should carry on the business of the testator to a given day, for the benefit of his estate, and the executors, from the confidence thus reposed by the testator in Pistor, permitted him to get in debts, without anything appearing on the will to show the testator's intention to that effect, the court of exchequer held that the executors must answer to the residuary legatee for the money so received by their agent. (f) So where trustees for sale sold the trust property and placed the conveyance executed by them and having their receipt indorsed, in the hands of a solicitor, who received and

loss by failure of banker, solicitor, &c. [See stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, *post*, 1828.]

(b) See, also, *East v. East*, 5 Hare, 348; *Hughes v. Empson*, 22 Beav. 181.

(c) *Hughes v. Empson*, 22 Beav. 181. In this case losses were occasioned by the non-sale of Crystal Palace shares, which had fallen from a premium to a discount, and the executors were charged with the value at the end of twelve months.

(d) 7 Ves. 150; *ante*, 1393 *et seq.* As to whether turnpike bonds are real securities, see *Robinson v. Robinson*, 1 De G., M. & G. 247.

(e) *Jenkins v. Plombe*, 6 Mod. 93; [*Green v. Hanbury*, 2 Brock. 403; *Marshall v. Moore*, 2 T. B. Mon. 69; *Succession of Baum*, 9 La. Ann. 412. It was held in Illinois that an administrator, having in good faith employed an agent in

another state to collect a debt due to his intestate's estate, who, after collecting the same, appropriated it to his own use, is not liable for the amount collected, having been guilty of no misconduct. *Christy v. M'Bride*, 2 Ill. 75. As to the liability of an executor for the loss of money collected by an attorney on demands placed in his hands for that purpose, and misappropriated by him, see *Rayner v. Pearsall*, 3 John. 578. An executor will be liable for the loss when he employs an unsuitable or incompetent person to collect the debts due to the estate, and they are lost in consequence. *Wakeman v. Hazleton*, 3 Barb. Ch. 148.]

(f) *Pistor v. Dunbar*, 1 Anstr. 107.

misapplied the purchase-money, they were held liable for a breach of trust. (g) Again, where trustees left some exchequer bills, in which they had properly invested trust money, in the hands of a broker, they were held personally liable upon a misapplication of the bills by the broker. (h)

\* But with respect to losses sustained by the failure of bankers, or other persons into whose hands the money of the testator has been deposited by the executor, the rule, at least in equity, seems to be, that where the deposit was made from necessity, or conformably to the common usage of mankind, the executor will not be responsible for the loss. (i) So if the executor, living in London, and receiving money of the testator, should remit to an attorney in the country to pay the debts there, and the attorney becomes insolvent, the executor will not be chargeable, if the business was transacted in the ordinary manner without any circumstances to show suspicion. (k) So where executors employ an auctioneer to sell the leaseholds, or other portion of the assets, who receives the deposit and fails to pay it over, the executors will not, generally speaking, be held personally liable for the loss. (l) But in *Darke v. Martyn*, (m) where a testator died in March, 1823, and in January, 1824, and January, 1825, the executors and trustees deposited part of the assets in the hands of bankers on their notes carrying interest; and the bankers failed in November, 1825; Lord Langdale M. R. held, that *as no necessity had been shown for such deposit*, the trustees were personally responsible for the loss. (n) So where a trustee deposited a trust fund with his bankers, accompanied by an order in writing to invest the money in consols, he was held answerable for the omis-

(g) *Ghost v. Waller*, 9 Beav. 497. See, also, *Bostock v. Floyer*, L. R. 1 Eq. 26; *Sutton v. Wilders*, L. R. 12 Eq. Cas. 373.

(h) *Matthews v. Brise*, 6 Beav. 239. See, also, *Rowland v. Witherden*, 3 Mac. & G. 568, and stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, *post*, 1828.

(i) *Churchill v. Hobson*, 1 P. Wms. 243; *Knight v. Lord Plymouth*, 3 Atk. 480; S. C. 1 Dick. 120; *Ex parte Belchier*, Amb. 219; *Rowth v. Howell*, 3 Ves. 565; *Adams v. Claxton*, 6 Ves. 226; *Wilks v. Groom*, 3 Drew. 584; *Swinfen*

*v. Swinfen*, 29 Beav. 211; *Johnson v. Newton*, 11 Hare, 160; *Mendes v. Guedalla*, 2 Johns. & H. 259; *Fenwicke v. Clarke*, 31 L. J. Ch. 728.

(k) *Bacon v. Bacon*, 5 Ves. 334, 335; *Castle v. Warland*, 32 Beav. 660; [*post*, 1826, 1827.]

(l) *Edmonds v. Peake*, 7 Beav. 239. See, also, stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, *post*, 1828.

(m) 1 Beav. 525.

(n) See, also, *Rehden v. Westley*, 29 Beav. 213.

sion of the bankers to make the investment, where he made no subsequent inquiry respecting it, until about five months \* afterwards, when the bankers became bankrupt. (o) And if an executor pays the money of the testator into a banker's, not on any distinct account, but *mixing it with his own money*, it should seem that the executor will be answerable for the loss sustained by the failure of the banker. (p)

The result of all the best authorities on this subject was thus stated by Lord Cottenham, in his judgment in the case of *Olough v. Bond*: (q) "Although a personal representative, acting strictly within the line of his duty and exercising reasonable care and diligence, will not be responsible for the failure or depreciation of the fund in which any part of the estate may be invested, or for the insolvency or misconduct of any person who may have possessed it; (q<sup>1</sup>) yet, if that line of duty be not strictly pursued, and any part of the property be invested by such personal representative in funds or upon securities not authorized, or be put within the control of persons who ought not to be intrusted with it, and a loss be thereby eventually sustained, such personal representative will be liable to make it good, however unexpected the result, however little likely to arise from the course adopted, and however free such conduct may have been from any improper motive. (q<sup>2</sup>) Thus if he omit to sell property when it ought to be sold, and it be afterwards lost

General result of authorities as to the liability of executors for loss of assets.

(o) *Challen v. Shippam*, 4 Hare, 555.

(q) 3 My. & Cr. 496.

(p) *Wren v. Kirton*, 11 Ves. 377; *Fletcher v. Walker*, 3 Madd. 73; *Massey v. Banner*, 4 Madd. 413; S. C. 1 Jac. & W. 241; *Robinson v. Ward*, Ry. & Mood. 274; S. C. 2 C. & P. 59; [Case v. Abeel, 1 Paige, 393; *Kellett v. Rathbun*, 4 Paige, 102.] See, also, *Salway v. Salway*, 2 Russ. & My. 215, in which case Lord Brougham held (overruling the decision of Sir J. Leach M. R. 4 Russ. 60), that a receiver appointed by the court is answerable for the loss of moneys consequent on the failure of a banker with whom they have been deposited for security, if the deposit be made in such a way that the receiver parts with the absolute control over the fund. This judgment was afterwards affirmed in *Dom. Proc. White v. Baugh*, 9 Bligh, 181.

(q<sup>1</sup>) [*Ante*, 1804, note (y), 1806, note (g); *Watson v. Stone*, 40 Ala. 451; *Dockey v. McDonald*, 40 Ala. 476; *Neilson v. Cook*, 40 Ala. 498.]

(q<sup>2</sup>) [See *White v. Gardner*, 38 Texas, 407, a case of conversion of assets into Confederate money during the civil war, in which administrators were held liable for a *devastavit*. See, also, *Williams v. Buster*, 5 W. Va. 342; *Copeland v. McCue*, 5 W. Va. 264; *Sprowl's case*, 21 La. Ann. 544; *Kleberg v. Bonds*, 31 Texas, 611; *Pitts v. Singleton*, 44 Ala. 363. As to the liability of an administrator for taking pay for assets sold, in Confederate money, see *Williams v. Campbell*, 46 Miss. 57; *Trammel v. Philleo*, 33 Texas, 395.]



without any fault of is, he is liable ; (r) or if he leave money due upon personal security, which, though good at \* the time, afterwards fails, (s) And the case is stronger if he be himself the author of the improper investment, as upon personal security, or an unauthorized fund. Thus, he is not liable, upon a proper investment in the three per cents., for loss occasioned by the fluctuations of that fund, (t) but he is for the fluctuations of any unauthorized fund. (u) So when the loss arises from the dishonesty or failure of any one to whom the possession of part of the estate has been intrusted. Necessity, which includes the regular course of business in administering the property, will, in equity, exonerate the personal representative. (u<sup>1</sup>) But if without such necessity he be instrumental in giving to the person failing possession of any part of the property, he will be liable although the person possessing it be a co-executor or co-administrator." (v)

In what cases an executor is

A *devastavit* by one of two executors or administrators shall not charge his companion, (x) provided he has

(r) *Phillips v. Phillips*, 2 Freem. 11 ; *ante*, 1804 ; *Fry v. Fry*, 27 Beav. 144 ; [*Brazer v. Clark*, 5 Pick. 96, stated *ante*, 1816, note (a<sup>1</sup>).]

(s) *Powell v. Evans*, 5 Ves. 839 ; *Tebbs v. Carpenter*, 1 Madd. 290 ; *ante*, 1804, [1805, note (e), 1806, note (g).] See, also, 1815.

(t) *Peat v. Crane*, 3 Dick. 499, note ; *ante*, 1810, 1811. [Where an executor deposited funds in the state treasury, without an order of court, but it appeared that the funds would have perished if retained in his hands, the court refused to charge him with a loss by depreciation of the state securities. *Morton v. Smith*, 1 Desaus. 128.]

(u) *Hancom v. Allen*, 2 Dick. 498 ; *Howe v. Lord Dartmouth*, 7 Ves. 137 ; *ante*, 1811.

(u<sup>1</sup>) [*Hawley v. James*, 5 Paige, 187 ; *Lewis v. Reed*, 11 Ind. 239 ; *Blight v. Schenck*, 10 Penn. St. 285. If the executor or administrator acts with proper diligence and in good faith, he is not liable for loss to the estate by the misconduct or insolvency of agents, whom it was necessary for him to employ in the course of his administration. *Calhoun's Estate*, 6 Watts, 185 ; cases cited above in this

note, and those cited *post*, 1827, note (y<sup>1</sup>) ; *Bacon v. Bacon*, 5 Ves. 335 ; *Clough v. Bond*, 3 My. & Cr. 497 ; *Joy v. Campbell*, 1 Sch. & Lef. 341 ; *Telford v. Barry*, 1 Iowa, 591 ; *ante*, 1817, note (e).]

(v) *Langford v. Gascoyne*, 11 Ves. 333, *post*, 1824 ; *Shipbrook v. Lord Hinchinbrook*, 11 Ves. 252 ; 16 Ves. 477, *post*, 1824 ; *Underwood v. Stevens*, 1 Meriv. 712, *post*, 1830 ; *Styles v. Guy*, *post*, 1828 ; *Trutch v. Lamprell*, 20 Beav. 116. The following are cases bearing on the general principles above stated, viz : *Bacon v. Clarke*, 3 My. & Cr. 294 ; *Lowry v. Fulton*, 9 Sim. 115 ; *Munch v. Cockerell*, 9 Sim. 339 ; 5 My. & Cr. 178 ; *Broadhurst v. Balguy*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 16 ; *Booth v. Booth*, 1 Beav. 125 ; *Phillipson v. Gatty*, 7 Hare, 516 ; *Byrne v. Norcott*, 13 Beav. 336 ; *Garner v. Moore*, 3 Drew. 277 ; *Lander v. Weston*, 3 Drew. 389 ; *Collinson v. Lister*, 20 Beav. 356 ; 7 De G., M. & G. 634 ; *Gibbins v. Taylor*, 22 Beav. 344 ; *Selby v. Bowie*, 4 Giff. 300 ; *Griffith v. Porter*, 25 Beav. 236 ; *Fry v. Fry*, 27 Beav. 144, 146.

(x) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 306, 14th ed. ; *Anon. Dyer*, 210 a ; *Hargthorpe v. Milforth*, Cro. Eliz. 318 ; *Williams v. Nixon*,

not intentionally or otherwise contributed to it. For the testator's having misplaced his confidence in one shall not operate to the prejudice of the other. (*y*)

liable for the *devastavit* of his co-executor.

2 Beav. 472; [State v. Belin, 5 Harr. (Del.) 400; Ray v. Doughty, 4 Blackf. 115; Davis v. Walford, 2 Ind. 88; Hall v. Carter, 8 Geo. 388. It is well settled that the liability of joint administrators and co-executors is identical. Lewin Trusts (5th Eng. ed.), 224; *post*, 1836, note (*a*<sup>1</sup>).]

(*y*) Cro. Eliz. 319. [In Ames v. Armstrong, 106 Mass. 18, Ames J. said: "Co-executors, even though numerous, are regarded in law as but one person. The acts of one, within the scope of his authority, in the administration of the estate, are the acts of all, with this qualification, that at common law each was responsible only for such assets as came to his own hands. Under ordinary circumstances, one of two or more executors was not to be held accountable for waste or other misconduct on the part of an associate. The misplaced confidence of the testator in the integrity or capacity of one of the number was not allowed to operate to the prejudice of another." *Ante*, 949. Where one executor merely permits his co-executor to take possession of the assets, without going further, and concurring in a misapplication of them, he does not render himself responsible for the receipts of his co-executor. See Williams v. Maitland, 1 Ired. Eq. 92; Hauser v. Lehman, 2 Ired. Eq. 594; Kerr v. Kirkpatrick, 8 Ired. Eq. 137; Worth v. McAden, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 199; Clarke v. Blount, 2 Dev. Eq. 51; Ochiltree v. Wright, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 336; Fennimore v. Fennimore, 3 N. J. Eq. 292; Fisher v. Skillman, 18 N. J. Eq. 229; Johnson v. Johnson, 2 Hill Ch. 277; Clarke v. Jenkins, 3 Rich. Eq. 318; Knox v. Pickett, 4 Desaus. 199; Lenoir v. Winn, 4 Desaus. '65; Mathews v. Mathews, 1 McMullan Eq. 410; Robinson's Estate, 7 Phil. (Penn.) 61; Sparhawk v. Buell, 9 Vt. 41; Cameron v. Justices, 1 Geo. 36; Hall v. Carter, 8 Geo. 388; Kerr v. Waters, 19 Geo. 136;

Clark v. Clark, 8 Paige, 152; Mesick v. Mesick, 7 Barb. 120; White v. Bullock, 20 Barb. 91; Banks v. Wilkes, 3 Sandf. 99; Sutherland v. Brush, 7 John. Ch. 17; Wood v. Brown, 34 N. Y. 337; Heath v. Allen, 1 A. K. Marsh. 442; Gaultney v. Nolan, 33 Miss. 569; Peter v. Beverley, 10 Peters, 532; Roach v. Hubbard, 6 Litt. 235; Manahan v. Gibbons, 19 John. 427; Call v. Ewing, 1 Blackf. 301; Brazier v. Clark, 5 Pick. 104; Royall v. M'Kenzie, 25 Ala. 363; Latrobe v. Tiernan, 2 Md. Ch. 474; 2 Story Eq. Jur. § 1283. The extent of the liability of one executor for the acts of his co-executor or co-executors, will depend very much upon the circumstances of each case. Fonte v. Horton, 36 Miss. 350; Noland v. Calvit, 20 Miss. 273; Clarke v. Blount, 2 Dev. Eq. 51. Each executor is, however, liable for his own acts of negligence or wrong, by which the estate of the deceased suffers loss or injury. See McDowall v. McDowall, 1 Bailey Eq. 324; Holcombe v. Holcombe, 13 N. J. Eq. 413; Irwin's Appeal, 35 Penn. St. 294; Weigand's Appeal, 28 Penn. St. 471; Hengst's Appeal, 24 Penn. St. 413; Blake v. Pegram, 109 Mass. 541, 552. At common law no bond was required of an executor, but his office was considered as a personal trust, resting in the confidence of the testator in the qualities which led to his selection for that special duty. And it sometimes happens that by the terms of the will executors are not required to furnish sureties upon the assumption of their trust. But in many of the American States, bonds with sureties are required by law as well of executors as of administrators; *ante*, 529, note (*a*<sup>1</sup>); and in these cases, as well as in cases where bonds, though not required, are given voluntarily, in conformity with those required by law, if the executors give a joint and several bond, its effect is to make them jointly and severally liable to the judge of probate, as the trustees for creditors and

\* Hence an executor shall not, under ordinary circumstances, be responsible for the assets come to the hands of his co-executor. (z) Hence, also, the circumstance that one of two executors

others interested in the estate, to the extent of assets which come to their joint possession. The authorities are clear that under such a bond, whatever may have been their common law rights, they are jointly responsible during the continuance of the joint executorship. *Brazer v. Clark*, 5 Pick. 96; *Newcomb v. Williams*, 9 Met. 525; *Towne v. Ammidown*, 20 Pick. 535; *Sparhawk v. Buell*, 9 Vt. 41; *Boyd v. Boyd*, 1 Watts, 365; *Newton v. Newton*, 53 N. H. 537; *Ames J. in Ames v. Armstrong*, 106 Mass. 18, 19; *Pearson v. Darrington*, 32 Ala. 227; *Bostick v. Elliott*, 3 Head, 507; *Braxton v. State*, 25 Ind. 82; *Clarke v. State*, 6 Gill & J. 288; *Morrow v. Peyton*, 8 Leigh, 54; *Jeffries v. Lawson*, 39 Miss. 791; *Anderson v. Miller*, 6 J. J. Marsh. 568. Neither executors nor administrators are required by law to enter into a joint bond; each may file a separate bond. *Ames J. in Ames v. Armstrong*, 106 Mass. 19. This is now provided by statute in Massachusetts. St. Mass. 1874, c. 366. And in case only separate bonds are given, the liability of an executor or administrator for the acts of maladministration of his co-executor or co-administrator, will be governed by the rules which are stated in the text, without reference to the bond. Where there were four joint executors upon an estate, who gave a joint bond, and two of them ultimately became insolvent, and one of the remaining two was compelled, under a decree of a court of chancery, to pay for property which, without fault or negligence on his part, had been wasted by one of the insolvent executors, prior to his becoming insolvent, it was held that the executor making such payment might recover from the other solvent executor one half of the amount so paid, and of all expenses incurred by him in defending the suit in chancery, in which the decision was made. *Marsh v. Harrington*, 18 Vt. 150. Two executors gave a joint and several

bond, with sureties, conditioned that the two should faithfully administer; one died and the survivor afterwards committed waste; and a judgment rendered on the bond against the survivor and his sureties was satisfied by the sureties; it was held that they had no right of action for indemnity or contribution against the heir or representative of the deceased executor. *Brazer v. Clark*, 5 Pick. 96. *Parker C. J.* in this case said: "By the tenor of their bond, the executors are bound only for the joint executorship; they may be answerable for all defalcations which accrue during that trust, and their estates are liable for the deficiencies, notwithstanding they have had no participation in the negligence or fraud; but they are not bound in this manner for acts or neglects which take place after their power has ceased. The survivor succeeds to the whole authority and power, and he alone, and those who are sureties for him, are responsible." Upon the claim that the estate of the deceased executor was at least liable on the ground of suretyship, he being to be considered in the light of a surety, the learned judge said: "But this would be changing the character of his engagement. He was principal in the bond, and liable as such, and when discharged from that liability he incurred no other." A similar decision was made in *Towne v. Ammidown*, 20 Pick. 535, on the authority of *Brazer v. Clark*, *supra*.]

(z) *Cro. Eliz.* 319; *Littlehales v. Gascoyne*, 3 Bro. C. C. 74; *Williams v. Nixon*, 2 Beav. 472; *Dix v. Burford*, 19 Beav. 412, by *Romilly M. R.*; [*Moore v. Tandy*, 3 Bibb, 97; *Gaultney v. Nolan*, 33 Miss. 569; *Williams v. Holden*, 4 Wend. 223; *Douglas v. Satterlee*, 14 John. 16; *Call v. Ewing*, 1 Blackf. 301; *Nettman v. Schramm*, 23 Iowa, 521; *Brazer v. Clark*, 5 Pick. 96; *Newcomb v. Williams*, 9 Met. 525; *Ames J. in Ames v. Armstrong*, 106 Mass. 18; *Stell's Appeal*, 10 Penn. St.

had notice of the existence of a debt of superior degree, which he concealed from his co-executor, shall not affect the latter so as to make him guilty of a *devastavit* by paying an inferior debt; (*a*) though, perhaps, if notice to one executor be proved, and nothing more appears, it shall be presumed that he communicated it to his co-executor. (*b*)

But where an executor, possessing assets of his testator, hands over those assets to a co-executor, and they are misapplied by that co-executor, there the executor, who so hands them over, shall be answerable for their misapplication, unless he can show a good reason for having so acted. (*c*)

The rule may, perhaps, be stated to be, that where, by any act done by one executor, any part of the representative estate comes to the hands of his co-executor, the former \* will be answerable for the latter, in the same manner as he would have been for a stranger, whom he had intrusted to receive it. (*d*)

152, 153.] See *infra*, pt. v. bk. II. ch. I., as to a finding by a jury, upon a plea of *plene administravit* by several executors, that one only had assets. See, also, stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, *post*, 1828.

(*a*) *Hawkins v. Day*, Ambl. 162; S. P. S. C. 1 Dick. 157.

(*b*) Ambl. 162. See *Timson v. Ramsbottom*, 2 Keen, 35; *Smith v. Smith*, 2 Cr. & M. 231; *Meux v. Bell*, 1 Hare, 73.

(*c*) *Townsend v. Barber*, Dick. 356; *Macpherson v. Macpherson*, 1 Macq. H. of L. 243; [*Sparhawk v. Buell*, 9 Vt. 41; *Sterrett's Appeal*, 2 Penn. 419; *Edmonds v. Crenshaw*, 14 Peters, 166; *Worth v. M'Aden*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 199.] However, in the case of *Davis v. Spurling*, 1 Russ. & My. 66, an executor was employed by his co-executor as his agent to sell an estate which, under the will of the testator, the co-executor alone had power to sell. The executor so employed handed over the price of the estate to the co-executor, who afterwards misapplied it. And Sir John Leach M. R. held that although, by the will of the testator, the price of the estate when sold was to be considered as part of his personal estate, yet the executor, so handing it over, was not accountable for the misapplication of it; inas-

much as he had no legal right to retain it; for it was in his hands, not as executor, but simply as agent of his co-executor, who alone had power to sell the estate, and to receive the price of it. [See, also, as to the difference between the rights of legatees and of creditors, in such cases, *Verner's Estate*, 6 Watts, 250.]

(*d*) See Mr. Cox's note to *Churchill v. Hobson*, 1 P. Wms. 241, and Lord Thurlow's judgment in *Sadler v. Hobbs*, 2 Bro. C. C. 117; [*Lewin Trusts* (5th Eng. ed.), 222, 223; *Mumford v. Murray*, 6 John. Ch. 1] Accordingly, in *Home v. Pringle*, 8 Cl. & Fin. 264, 268, the rule was stated to be that the appointment of one of several trustees to manage the property would not *per se* make the other trustees responsible for his acts; but it would make the trustee so appointed the agent of the other trustees for those purposes, and render them responsible for his acts, so far as they would have been responsible for the acts or receipts of a stranger. See, also, *Toplis v. Hurrell*, 19 Beav. 423, where the rule here stated was adopted by Romilly M. R. See, also, *Candler v. Tillett*, 22 Beav. 263; *Cowell v. Gatcombe*, 27 Beav. 568; *Ingle v. Partridge*, 32 Beav. 661; [*Styles v. Guy*, 1 Mac. & G. 422.]

[1822]

But if an executor is merely passive, by not obstructing his co-executor from getting the assets into his possession, the former is not responsible. (e) If, however, the one in any way contributes to enable the other to obtain possession, he is answerable, notwithstanding his motive be innocent, unless he can assign a sufficient excuse. (f) Thus, in the case of several executors, if, by agreement among themselves, one is to receive and intermeddle with such part of the estate, and another with such a part, each of them will be chargeable for the whole; because the receipts of each are pursuant to the agreement made between them. (g) So where A., B., C., D., and E. (the two latter being married women) took out administration to an intestate, and afterwards appointed C. to be the acting administrator, and \*directed the creditors to pay their debts to him; and C. became insolvent; it was held that A., B., and the husbands of D. and E., were responsible for C.'s receipts. (h) So where a man made several executors, who all joined in the sale of the testator's goods, but one only received the money, and he became insolvent; it was holden that they should all be charged. (i)

Accordingly, an executor, having a fund standing in the joint names of himself and another, cannot, upon the mere represen-

(e) *Langford v. Gascoyne*, 11 Ves. 335; *Candler v. Tillett*, 22 Beav. 257; [*Sterrett's Appeal*, 2 Penn. 419.] This, it should seem, applies only to cases where the question arises under a decree for the common accounts, and not under a special charge against the executor for wilful neglect and default. *Terrell v. Mathew*, 1 Mac. & G. 433, note (a). (See, also, the remarks of the reporters of that case, *Ib.*) He would clearly be liable if he stood by and saw his co-executor commit a breach of duty. See the cases cited *post*, 1827.

(f) 11 Ves. 335; *Hewett v. Foster*, 6 Beav. 259; *Broadhurst v. Bagny*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 16. See, also, the cases collected in note (d); [*Stewart v. Conner*, 9 Ala. 803; *Wayman v. Jones*, 4 Md. Ch. 500; *Estate of Mary Evans*, 2 Ashm. 470; *Clark v. Clark*, 8 Paige, 153; *Schenck v. Schenck*, 1 Green (N. J.), 174; *Hall v. Carter*, 8 Geo. 388; *Mesick v. Mesick*, 7 Barb. 120; *Edmonds v. Crenshaw*, 14 Peters, 166.]

(g) *Gill v. Atty. Gen. Hardr.* 314. ["Even according to the common law, whenever any part of the estate, by any act or agreement of one executor, passes or is intrusted to the custody of a co-executor, they are thereby rendered jointly responsible. In such a case it would be inferred that there had been a joint possession or custody, and that one executor, having power and opportunity to make it secure, had yielded the control to the other." *Ames J. in Ames v. Armstrong*, 106 Mass. 18. See *Monell v. Monell*, 5 John. Ch. 283, 296; *Sterrett's Appeal*, 2 Penn. 419; *Edmonds v. Crenshaw*, 14 Peters, 166; *Roberts v. Thomas*, 32 Geo. 31; *M'Nair's Appeal*, 4 Rawle, 154; *Buntin's Appeal*, 4 Watts & S. 469; *Ducommun's Appeal*, 17 Penn. St. 268.]

(h) *Lees v. Sanderson*, 4 Sim. 28.

(i) *Aplyn v. Brewer*, Prec. Chan. 173; *Burrows v. Walls*, 5 De G., M. & G. 233.

tation of the co-executor, if false, be justified in doing an act that is an exercise of power over that fund. First, the act must be necessary for the purposes of the will, and then the person to whom the representation is made has imposed upon him at least ordinary and reasonable diligence to inquire whether the representation is true. (*k*)

Also, if an executor has been dealing with the assets a considerable time, much beyond that period in which, according to the ordinary course, the debts would be paid, and he applies to the other executor to have a fund put into his hands exclusively, and the other does inquire, and satisfies himself that there are debts unpaid, and the real purpose of the executor making the application was to apply the fund to the discharge of debts; if it turns out afterwards that he had in his own hands a fund sufficient for the payment of those debts, and therefore the application of the other fund to that purpose was unnecessary, and that fund was not in fact devoted to the purpose for which it was provided, it would be impossible for the executor, who parted with it, to discharge himself. He would be subject to the imputation of negligence, as having been too easy with his co-executor; too remiss in not asking how he had been dealing with the assets in his hands. (*l*)

\* Upon these principles, Lord Eldon held, in *Shipbrook v. Hinchinbrook*, (*m*) that where executors joined in a transfer of stock, vested in the name of all the executors, to a co-executor, upon his groundless representation that it was required for debts, the executors were answerable for the whole of the produce of the stock which they could not prove to have been applied by the co-executor to the payment of debts of the testator. (*n*) But his lordship further held that they were not liable so far as they could prove the application to that purpose, although he possessed other funds, part of the assets, not through them, which funds he wasted.

Again, in *Langford v. Gascoyne*, (*o*) it appeared from the affi-

(*k*) 11 Ves. 254; *Hewett v. Foster*, 6 Beav. 259; *Broadhurst v. Balguy*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 16.

(*l*) 11 Ves. 254. See, also, *Mendes v. Guedella*, 2 Johns. & H. 259; [*Clark v. Clark*, 8 Paige, 152.]

(*m*) 11 Ves. 252; S. C. 16 Ves. 477.

(*n*) See, also, *Chambers v. Minchin*, 7 Ves. 186; *Underwood v. Stevens*, 1 Meriv. 713; *Williams v. Nixon*, 2 Beav. 472;

*Hewett v. Foster*, 6 Beav. 259; *Broadhurst v. Balguy*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 16.

(*o*) 11 Ves. 333.

davit of a witness, that on the day after the testator's funeral, his three executors, Gascoyne, Spurrell, and Lambert, met at his house, and his widow, being present, left the room to fetch a bag of money. Upon her return with it, she asked the witness to which of the executors she should deliver it; and the witness not then having a good opinion of Gascoyne's circumstances, advised her to give it to Spurrell; upon which, she passed by Gascoyne and Lambert, who were sitting near the door, and gave the bag into the hands of Spurrell, who counted the money over, and then delivered it into the hands of Gascoyne. The witness further stated, that at that time Gascoyne was not reputed to be in good circumstances. And Sir Wm. Grant held that the money must be considered to have been so far in the hands of Spurrell, that he was answerable for what afterwards became of it; but that as to the other executor, Lambert, it was impossible to charge him; for that he had neither done nor said anything that in any degree contributed to the loss of the money, or to its getting into the hands of Gascoyne. And his honor observed, that it was \* not incumbent in one executor by force to prevent the money getting into the hands of another. (o<sup>1</sup>)

So, in *Moses v. Levi*, (p) a testatrix bequeathed the residue of her property to certain persons, some of whom lived in the west of England, and others in Norfolk, and she appointed two persons to be executors, one of whom lived at Clifton, and the other at Diss. The executors, having paid all the debts and specific legacies of the testatrix, entered into an arrangement by which the Clifton executor was to pay the residuary legatees in the west of England, and the Diss executor those in Norfolk; and the residuary funds were apportioned between them for that purpose. The Diss executor made default in payment of one of the legatees in that neighborhood. And Alderson B. held that the other executor was responsible for the default.

But if one executor places the property of the testator in the hands of the other, who happens to be a banker, or in such a situation that the act is not imprudent, the executor so depositing

(o<sup>1</sup>) [And so, where funds have properly come to the hands of one executor, his co-executor is not liable therefor merely in consequence of omitting to withdraw, or attempting to withdraw the funds from the

hands of the executor who received them, upon notice of his insolvency. *Worth v. M'Aden*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 199.]

(p) 3 Y. & Coll. 359.

shall not be charged in case of a loss; for if he had been a sole executor, and had, under the same circumstances, placed the money in a banker's hands, he would not have been liable. (*q*) So if an executor in the country executes a power of attorney to a co-executor in town for the purpose of changing a fund of the testator, as the court would order it to be changed, as from the Long Annuities to three per cents. the act is justifiable, being for a purpose belonging to the administration of assets; but not to change it to bank stock. (*r*) So, in *Bacon v. Bacon*, (*s*) where an executor, living in London, paid money to his co-executor, who had been the confidential agent and attorney of the testator, for the purpose of paying debts in the country where he resided, and the money was lost by his insolvency, Lord \*Loughborough held that the executor who had paid the money under such circumstances should not be charged with the loss. (*t*)

Again, it has been held that one executor is not answerable for the receipt of the other, merely by taking probate, permitting the other to possess the assets, and joining in acts necessary to enable him to administer. (*u*) Accordingly, where a bill of exchange was remitted to two agents, payable to them personally, who, on

(*q*) *Churchill v. Hobson*, 1 P. Wms. 241; *Chambers v. Minchin*, 7 Ves. 198. See, also, *Atty. Gen. v. Randell*, MS. Rep. 21 Vin. Abr. 534, tit. Trust, N. a, pl. 9. [*Daly's Estate*, 1 Tuck. N. Y. Sur. 95. Neither does a trustee, by being cashier to the trust estate, incur any additional liability in respect of its management beyond what he was subject to as trustee. *Home v. Pringle*, 8 Cl. & Fin. 264.]

(*r*) *Chambers v. Minchin*, 7 Ves. 193, by Lord Eldon. See *ante*, 1810-1812.

(*s*) 5 Ves. 331.

(*t*) This decision was approved of by Lord Eldon, in *Chambers v. Minchin*, 7 Ves. 193. See *Davis v. Spurling*, 1 Russ. & My. 66, where Sir John Leach M. R. intimates that an executor handing over assets to his co-executor for the express payment of a particular debt, will not be answerable for their misapplication. See, also, *Castle v. Warland*, 32 Beav. 660. But in *Hanbury v. Kirkland*, 3 Sim. 265, on a marriage, a sum of stock was settled for the separate use of the wife for life, re-

mainder for the husband for life, remainder for their children, with power to change securities with consent of the wife. The dividends on the stock being reduced, one of the trustees, in whom the husband and wife principally confided, and who, with his partners, was their solicitor, informed his co-trustees that he had an opportunity of investing the property in a mortgage at five per cent., and, with the consent of the husband and wife, requested his co-trustees to execute a power of attorney to enable him to sell the stock. The co-trustees, without inquiring into the matter, complied. The trustee sold the stock and absconded. And Sir L. Shadwell V. C. held, that the co-trustees were liable. See, also, accord. *Broadhurst v. Balguy*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 16; *Trutch v. Lamprell*, 20 Beav. 116.

(*u*) *Hovey v. Blakeman*, 4 Ves. 596; [*ante*, 1820, note (*y*); *Lewin Trusts* (5th Eng. ed.), 222, 223.] But see *ante*, 1822, note (*e*), and *Styles v. Guy*, *post*, 1828.



the death of the principal, became his executors, Lord Alvanley held that the mere indorsement of one, after they were executors, in order to enable the other to receive the money, was not sufficient to charge him who did not receive it. (x) So it was laid down by Lord Redesdale, in *Joy v. Campbell*, (y) that if an executor, living in London, remits money to his co-executor to pay debts in Suffolk, "he is considered to do this of necessity; he could not transact business without trusting some persons, and it would be impossible for him to discharge his \* duty, if he is made responsible where he remitted to a person to whom he would have given credit, and would in his own business have remitted money in the same way. It would be the same, were one executor in India, and another in England, the assets being in India, but to be applied in England; there the co-executor is appointed for the purpose of carrying on such transactions; and the executor is not responsible; for he must remit to somebody, and he cannot be wrong if he remits to the person in whom the testator himself reposed confidence." (y<sup>1</sup>)

But the rule, it should seem, is different at law. Thus, in *Cross v. Smith*, (z) it was held that an executor administering, having once received money, assets of his testator, could not discharge himself, under a plea of *plene administravit* to an action by a bond creditor, by showing that he paid the money over to his co-executor, even for the purpose of satisfying the bond creditor, who had applied for payment to such co-executor, if the co-executor afterwards misapplied the money by retaining it to satisfy his own simple contract debt.

It may here be mentioned, that by the established rules of courts of equity, it is the duty of all executors to watch over, and, if necessary, to correct the conduct of each other; and that an executor as well as a trustee, who stands by and sees a breach of trust committed by his co-trustee, becomes responsible for that breach of trust. (a)

(x) 4 Ves. 608, 609.

(y) 1 Sch. & Lef. 341.

(y<sup>1</sup>) [See *Deaderick v. Cantrell*, 10 Yerger, 254; *Thomas v. Scruggs*, 10 Yerger, 401; *Barrings v. Willing*, 4 Wash. C. C. 251; *Maccubbin v. Cromwell*, 7 Gill & J. 157; *Jones's Appeal*, 8 Watts & S. 147.]

(z) 7 East, 246.

(a) *Styles v. Guy*, 1 Mac. & G. 433, by Lord Cottenham; *Williams v. Nixon*, 2 Beav. 475, by Lord Langdale; *Horton v. Brocklehurst*, 29 Beav. 510, by Romilly M. R.; [*Wood v. Brown*, 34 N. Y. 137; *Heath v. Allen*, 1 A. K. Marsh. 442; *Clark v. Clark*, 8 Paige, 153; *Estate of Mary Evans*, 2 Ashm. 470; *Johnson v.*

Accordingly, in *Booth v. Booth*, (b) a testator bequeathed to his partner and to one Batkin, his personal estate, upon trust to invest the same for the benefit of his wife and children. Both the executors proved the will, and the surviving partner retained the testator's moneys in the trade, which were lost. Batkin took no active part in the trusts, but was cognizant of the breach of trust, and took no proceedings to prevent it. And \* Lord Langdale M. R. held that Batkin was responsible for the consequences of the breach of trust. So, in *Lincoln v. Wright*, (c) two executors, permitting their co-executor to retain in his hands the ascertained residue, were held by the same learned judge to be liable for a breach of trust. Again, in *Styles v. Guy*, (d) where two of three executors, with the knowledge that there were unsettled accounts subsisting at the testator's death between him and their co-executor, in which they had reason to believe that the latter was considerably indebted to the estate, took no effectual measures to compel him to account and pay or secure the balance for several years, at the end of which he became bankrupt, Lord Cottenham held that the solvent executors (who were unable to prove that an attempt to recover the money at an earlier period would have been fruitless) were responsible for the loss, as having been occasioned by their wilful neglect and default. (e)

In cases of the description lately above considered, a trustee or executor will not be protected by the usual indemnity clause, exonerating him from all responsibility on account of the acts of his co-trustees or co-executors. (f)

not precluded by the usual indemnity clause.

By stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, it is enacted that "every

*Corbett*, 11 Paige, 265; *Kincade v. Conley*, 64 N. Car. 387.]

(b) 1 Beav. 125.

(c) 4 Beav. 427.

(d) 1 Mac. & G. 422.

(e) See, also, *Egbert v. Butter*, 21 Beav. 560; *Candler v. Tillett*, 22 Beav. 257; [Weigand's Appeal, 28 Penn. St. 471; *Scully v. Delany*, 2 Ir. Eq. 165; *Hengst's Appeal*, 24 Penn. St. 413; 2 Story Eq. Jur. § 1284; *Jones's Appeal*, 8 Watts & S. 143; *Wayman v. Jones*, 4 Md. Ch. 500; *Clark v. Clark*, 8 Paige, 153.]

(f) *Mucklow v. Fuller*, Jacob. 198. See, also, *Underwood v. Stevens*, 1 Meriv.

712; *Hanbury v. Kirkland*, 3 Sim. 265; *Williams v. Nixon*, 2 Beav. 472; *Dix v. Burford*, 19 Beav. 409; *Brumridge v. Brumridge*, 27 Beav. 5. But where the will provided that any trustee who shall pay to his co-trustee, or enable him to receive moneys, for the general purposes of the will, should not be obliged to see to due application thereof or be responsible by express or implied notice of the misapplication, it was held that this was a good answer to a bill against two of three trustees to make good trust moneys which they had allowed their co-trustee to receive. *Wilkins v. Hogg*, 3 Giff. 116.

[1828]

deed, will, or other instrument creating a trust, either expressly or by implication, shall, without prejudice to the clauses actually contained therein, be deemed to contain \* a clause in the words or to the effect following; that is to say, That the trustees or trustee for the time being of the said deed, will, or other instrument, shall be respectively chargeable only for such moneys, stocks, funds, and securities, as they shall respectively actually receive, notwithstanding their respectively signing any receipt for the sake of conformity, and shall be answerable and accountable only for their own acts, receipts, neglects, or defaults, and not for those of each other, nor for any banker, broker, or other person with whom any trust moneys or securities may be deposited, nor for the insufficiency or deficiency of any stocks, funds, or securities, nor for any other loss, unless the same shall happen through their own wilful default respectively; and also that it shall be lawful for the trustees or trustee for the time being of the said deed, will, or other instrument, to reimburse themselves or himself, or pay or discharge out of the trust premises all expenses incurred in or about the execution of the trusts or powers of the said deed, will, or other instrument."

It may here be observed, that if an executor administers part of the assets, he shall be charged with such as he has received, although he has renounced the executorship, and paid the money to a co-executor who proved will. (g) For executors must either wholly renounce, or if they act to a certain extent as executors, and take upon them that character, they can be discharged only by administering the assets themselves, or by putting the administration into the hands of a court of equity. (h) Thus, in *Doyle v. Blake*, (i) A., named executor in a will, acted on behalf of particular legatees, disclaiming an intention of interfering generally. He afterwards renounced formally in favor of B. who was named a trustee in the same will, who thereupon obtained administration *cum testamento annexo*. B. possessed himself \* of the assets, and afterwards died insolvent. And it was held that A. was liable, as executor, not-

(g) *Read v. Truelove*, AmbL. 417. [One of several administrators removed from office is not liable for acts done after his removal. *Marsh v. People*, 15 Ill. 284.]

(h) 2 Sch. & Lef. 345. See *Riky v. Kemmis*, 1 Lloyd & Goold, 101; *Herton v. Brocklehurst*, 29 Beav. 504.

(i) 2 Sch. & Lef. 231.

withstanding his renunciation; and was answerable for the acts of B., it appearing that he had a control over the assets, and B. being considered as having obtained possession thereof by his means. So in *Underwood v. Stevens*, (*k*) one of two executors and trustees did not act, otherwise than by joining with his co-executor and trustee in the sale of stock, under a representation that the sale was necessary for payment of debts, which it was not; the produce was received by the latter, and the greater part applied by him to his own private purposes. And the first executor was held chargeable for the amount, except so far as any part was applied to the trust purposes; together with interest at four per cent.; notwithstanding the parties beneficially interested consented to and approved of the sale, under a similar misrepresentation. Again, in *Rogers v. Frank*, (*l*) the defendant, named in the will as executor, did not prove the will, but before he renounced, he collected large sums belonging to the estate of the testator. And it was held that he was liable to be sued in equity in the character of executor by the legatees under the will, one of whom was also executrix, and had proved the will. (*m*)

But an executor, who has not proved, is not to be considered as acting, by assisting a co-executor who has proved, in writing letters to collect debts, or by writing directly to a debtor of the testator, and requiring payment. (*n*) So, if one of two persons named executors disclaims and renounces, who afterwards possesses himself of assets as agent to the other, who has proved the will, the former does not thereby become accountable as executor. (*o*) So in *Stacy v. Elph*, (*p*) a person named as executor and trustee \* under a will did not formally renounce probate until after the death of the acting executrix, nor did he ever disclaim by deed the trust of the real estate; but he purchased a part of the real estate, and took the conveyance from the widow, who was tenant for life, and the heir, to whom the estate must have descended upon the disclaimer of the trust. During the life of the acting executrix, however, he interfered in the disposition of the

(*k*) 1 Meriv. 712.(*l*) 1 Y. & Jerv. 409.(*m*) See, also, *Harrison v. Graham*, 104. stated *infra*, 1831.(*n*) *Orr v. Newton*, 2 Cox, 274.(*o*) *Dove v. Everard*, 1 Russ. & My.231. See, also, *Lowry v. Fulton*, 9 Sim.(*p*) 1 My. & K. 195.

testator's property, as her friend or agent; and it was held that he was not, under the circumstances, chargeable as executor or trustee. But in *Harrison v. Graham* (q) the case was as follows: Barbara Graham by will appointed her mother, her sisters Margaret and Elizabeth, and her brother Robert, her executors, and died. Margaret alone proved the will, and acted chiefly as executrix, and was described as the only acting one, in a letter of attorney executed by the others, who were therein described as executors, to empower Margaret to receive a quantity of stock. Robert, by virtue of another letter of attorney, executed by the other executors, transferred a quantity of the testatrix's S. S. stock, received the money, and paid it over the same day to Margaret. After this she and the mother died, making Robert their executor. It did not appear that Robert had, under the first executorship, done any other act as executor, besides giving the one letter of attorney and receiving the other. The question was, whether this was such an act of administration in Robert, as should make him chargeable as to his own estate. The master had charged him, and the case came on, upon exceptions to the report. Lord Hardwicke: "The question in the case is, whether or no this defendant had acted as an executor, and consequently whether he is chargeable? I agree that there may be cases where an executor may act as an attorney to the other executors. If an executor renounces, and then acts under a letter of attorney, it is no administration; for it depends on the nature of the act, accompanied \* with any other acts. Here is a will and four executors. The will is proved by one only, with a reservation of the rights of the other three. Here appear to have been acts done by them all, and a letter of attorney given by the defendant, together with the other executors, to Margaret, who indeed is described therein as the only acting executrix. But the defendant describes himself there as an executor. This was clearly acting as an executor. Then he afterwards accepts another letter of attorney from Margaret, and the rest of the executors. Shall executors be allowed to discharge themselves at their pleasure from being liable to assets? Money comes into his hands, he pays it over to Margaret; this cannot discharge him." (r)

(q) 3 Hill's MSS. 239; 1 P. Wms. 241, Coll. C. C. 370; and the cases collected note (y) to 6th ed. ante, 279-281.

(r) See, also, *James v. Frearson*, 1 Y. &

It is a general rule, that where an executor has once proved the will, he cannot renounce his representative character, and act under another. He can do no act in regard to the estate for which he is not answerable as executor. In the case of *Graham v. Keble*, (*s*) a partner in a house of agency in India, where a deposit was made in trust for a particular purpose, was made one of the executors of him who made the deposit, and proved the will. A power of attorney was sent from the executors in Europe, to the house of agency, for them to act under. But it was held that as the partner named executor had proved the will, the house could only act under his authority, and that he himself could not renounce the executorship and act in another character. But a co-executor, who proved, but never acted, cannot be charged by reason of the mere circumstance that he received a letter by the post from a debtor to the estate, inclosing a bill of exchange on account of his debt, which bill the co-executor immediately sent to the acting executor, who afterwards became insolvent. (*t*)

Liability of an executor who has proved, but declines to act as executor.

The most difficult point connected with this subject is with regard to the liability of an executor who merely joins \* his co-executor in an act which might have been done with equal validity by the co-executor alone. At one period, a well recognized distinction on this head existed between trustees and executors. This distinction was founded on the difference between the power and authority of a co-trustee, and that of a joint executor, viz, that trustees cannot act separately as executors may, but must join both in conveyances and receipts; and therefore it may be taken that a co-trustee joins only for conformity. But a co-executor, as it is not necessary for him to join, interferes in the transaction unnecessarily; he was, therefore, to be considered as assuming a power over the fund, and consequently answerable for its application, as far as it was connected with the particular transaction in which he joined. Therefore the rule was, that where the executors joined in a receipt, both having the whole power over the whole fund, both were chargeable; where trustees joined, each not having the whole power, and the joining being necessary, only the person receiving the money was chargeable. (*u*) But this rule was much

Liability of a co-executor joining in a receipt.

(*s*) 2 Dow. P. C. 17.

(*t*) *Balchen v. Scott*, 2 Ves. jr. 678.

(*u*) *Aplyn v. Brewer*, Prec. Chan. 173;

*Murrell v. Cox*, 2 Vern. 570; Treat. Eq.

relaxed in favor of executors, by the opinion expressed by Lord Harcourt in *Churchill v. Hobson*, (x) and by the decision of Lord Northington in *Westley v. Clarke*, (y) which latter case was expressly approved of by Lord Alvanley in *Hovey v. Blakeman*. (z) Again, in *Scurfield v. Howes*, (a) the last mentioned judge observed, that he dissented from the rule, as broadly stated, that if one executor receives the money, and two sign the receipt, both are \*chargeable, *if it appear that the second joined for conformity only*. (b)

In *Westley v. Clarke*, as Lord Thurlow observed in giving judgment in the case of *Sadler v. Hobbs*, Thompson, one of the executors, had actually received the money without the concurrence of the co-executors, and they signed the receipt afterwards; and that, therefore, was not an act which put it in the power of Thompson to get at the money, since, in fact, he had it at the time; and his lordship added, that, according to a note in that case, with which he had been furnished by the then master of the rolls (Sir L. Kenyon), Lord Northington said he should have thought the co-executors liable, if they had been present at the time when the money was paid. (c) And Lord Redesdale, in *Joy v. Campbell*, (d) took the distinction to be, that if a receipt be given for the mere purposes of form, then the signing will not charge the person not receiving; but if it be given under circumstances purporting that the money, though not actually received

bk. 2, c. 7, s. 5; *Darwell v. Darwell*, 2 Eq. Cas. Abr. 456, pl. 5; *Fellows v. Mitchell*, 1 P. Wms. 83; *Ex parte Belchier*, Ambl. 219; *Leigh v. Barry*, 3 Atk. 584; *Chambers v. Minchin*, 7 Ves. 198; *Brice v. Stokes*, 11 Ves. 324; *Gregory v. Gregory*, 2 Y. & Coll. 315, 316; [*Hall v. Carter*, 8 Geo. 388; *Sterrett's Appeal*, 2 Penn. St. 219; *Jones's Appeal*, 8 Watts & S. 143; *Johnson v. Johnson*, 2 Hill Eq. 390; *Clarke v. Jenkins*, 3 Rich. Eq. 318; *Monell v. Monell*, 5 John. Ch. 283; *Monahan v. Gibbons*, 19 John. 427. If an executor joins his co-executor in executing a power of sale, given in the will, he will be responsible for the appropriation of the proceeds, although the co-executor received all the money. *Ochiltree v. Wright*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 386; *Hauser v. Lehman*, 2

Ired. Eq. 594; *Deaderick v. Cantrell*, 10 Yerger, 263; *Johnson v. Johnson*, 2 Hill Eq. 277; *Mathews v. Mathews*, 1 McMullan Eq. 410.]

(x) 1 P. Wms. 243.

(y) 1 Eden, 357; S. C. 1 P. Wms. 82, note by Mr. Cox. See, also, the observations of the lord keeper in *Harden v. Parsons*, 1 Eden, 147, 148.

(z) 4 Ves. 608.

(a) 3 Bro. C. C. 95, according to the report from Lord Colchester's MSS. in Belt's edition.

(b) See accord. In re Fryer, *Martindale v. Picquot*, 3 Kay & J. 317; [*Lewin Trusts* (5th Eng. ed.), 219 *et seq.*]

(c) 1 P. Wms. 241, note by Cox.

(d) 1 Sch. & Lef. 341.

by both executors, was under the control of both, such a receipt shall charge; and the true question in all those cases seems to have been, whether the money was under the control of both executors; if it was so considered by the person paying the money, then the joining in the receipt by the executor who did not actually receive it, amounted to a direction to pay his co-executor; for it could have no other meaning; he became responsible for the application of the money, just as if he had received it. (e) Again, in *Doyle v. Blake*, (f) the same learned judge observed, that "where executors have been jointly charged where one only has received the money, and the other joined in the receipt, it has been on the ground that the property was under the control of both. That is, where two \*executors joined in the receipt to a debtor for a sum of money, though the receipt of one would have been a discharge to the debtor, yet, they joining in the discharge, the debtor is taken to have paid to them both; his requiring the discharge of the executor, who has not received the money, amounts to saying, 'I make this payment to you both, and not to him only who actually received the money.' The true consideration in a question of this kind is, whether the executor, who merely joins in the receipt, had a control, and his joining in the receipt is evidence of that control, although the money was actually received by the other. I believe, if the case of *Westley v. Clarke* were seen with all the circumstances that were before Lord Northington, we should find that he meant to establish no more than this: that the mere joining in the receipt should not have the conclusive effect of charging both."

The relaxation of the rule in favor of executors has been lamented by Lord Eldon on several occasions, (g) so much so as to lead to doubts whether the original rule must not be considered as reestablished. (h) But his lordship, when last he had an opportunity to consider the rule, (i) alludes to its alteration as having been completely effected. "Executors seem formerly to

(e) See accord. *Gregory v. Gregory*, 2 Y. & Coll. 316, per Alderson B.; [*Stewart v. Conner*, 9 Ala. 803.]

(f) 2 Sch. & Lef. 242.

(g) *Chambers v. Minchin*, 7 East, 198; *Brice v. Stokes*, 11 Ves. 324; *Shipbrook v. Hinchinbrook*, 16 Ves. 479. A simpler rule, said his lordship, never existed, than

that if an executor acts without necessity, he takes the power over the fund; and he shall not say he has not the power over it. 7 Ves. 199.

(h) See 1 Eden, 360, note (b) by Lord Henley; 2 Bro. C. C. 114, note (1) by Mr. Belt.

(i) *Walker v. Symons*, 3 Swanst. 64.



have been charged on much stricter principles, if they joined unnecessarily, though without taking the control of the money; that rule is now altered; whether the alteration is wholesome may be a question. It may be laid down now, as in *Brice v. Stokes*, that though one executor has joined in a receipt, yet whether he is liable shall depend on his acting. The former was a simple rule, that joining shall be considered as acting; but in the cases \*since the rule, that joining alone does not impose responsibility, scarcely two judges agree." (1)

Stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31. The non-liability of the executor appears to be now fully settled by the stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31 (*ante*, 1828).

Although it is true as a general rule that concurrence in the act of *devastavit* on the part of the parties injured by it, or acquiescence without original concurrence, will release the executors, (k) yet the court must inquire into all the circumstances which induced concurrence or acquiescence, and ascertain whether their conduct really amounts to such a previous sanction or subsequent ratification as ought to relieve the executors from responsibility. (l)

When a *devastavit* is released by concurrence or acquiescence.

It may be observed, in concluding this subject, that in *Churchill*

(1) [See *Stewart v. Conner*, 9 Ala. 803; *Brown's Appeal*, 1 Dallas, 311; *Sterrett's Appeal*, 2 Penn. St. 420, 421; *Vernon v. Henry*, 6 Watts, 192; *M'Nair's Appeal*, 4 Rawle, 148; *Stell's Appeal*, 10 Penn. St. 152; *Ochiltree v. Wright*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 336. It was held in *Monell v. Monell*, 5 John. Ch. 283, that if two executors or other trustees join in a receipt for money, it is *prima facie*, though not absolutely conclusive, evidence that the money came to the hands of both; that one executor may show, by satisfactory proof, that the joining in the receipt was necessary, or merely formal, and that the money in fact was paid to his companion; that without such satisfactory proof he must be liable to the party interested, and that if the money was in fact paid to his companion, yet if it was so paid by his act, direction, and agreement, and when he had it in his power to have controlled or secured the money, he is, and ought to be, responsible. *Lewin Trusts* (5th Eng. ed.) 219 *et seq.*, 222, 223. The rules respecting co-executors are equally applicable to co-administrators. Lord Hardwicke once expressed an opinion that joint administrators resembled rather co-trustees, and that any one of them could not exercise the office without the concurrence of the rest; *Hudson v. Hudson*, 1 Atk. 460; but it was afterwards determined in the court of king's bench, that joint administrators and co-executors stood in this respect precisely on the same footing. *Willand v. Fenn*, cited *Jacomb v. Harwood*, 2 Ves. 267; *ante*, 1820; *Lewin Trusts* (5th Eng. ed.), 224; *Murray v. Blatchford*, 1 Wend. 583; *O'Neill v. Herbert*, 1 McMullan Eq. 495.]

(k) *Griffiths v. Porter*, 25 Beav. 236.

(l) *Walker v. Symonds*, 3 Swanst. 1; *Burrows v. Walls*, 5 De G., M. & G. 233, 251; *Davies v. Hodgson*, 25 Beav. 177.

[1836]

*v. Hobson*, (m) Lord Harcourt took a distinction between creditors and legatees. (n) But Lord Thurlow, in *Sadler v. Hobbs*, (o) said that this seemed to him an odd distinction, that a creditor should have a right to charge an executor and a legatee not. It should seem, however, that there may be cases where the strictness of law would charge a man as executor as to creditors, in which a court of equity would not charge him as to legatees. For example, legatees are bound by the terms of the will, but creditors are not so; and therefore, in many instances executors would be discharged as against legatees, though not as against creditors. (p)

Distinction as to executors' liability between creditors and legatees.

It remains to consider the doctrine of *devastavit*, as applied to the case of a married woman, executrix or administratrix. If a *feme sole*, being an executrix or administratrix, wastes the goods of her testator or intestate and then marries, her husband is liable, as long as the coverture lasts, for the \**devastavit*. (q) But upon her death his liability ceases. And such being the principle of law, courts of equity have held that they could not establish any rule upon the difference whether the husband had or had not received a portion with his wife. (r)

Liability of husband and *feme covert* executrix for *devastavit*: before marriage:

It must, however, be observed, that if the wife was entitled to any *choses in action*, which the husband did not reduce into possession in her lifetime, so that it becomes necessary for him to take out administration to her, he will be liable, as her administrator, for her *devastavit*, by virtue of the statute 30 Car. 2. (s)

With respect to the *devastavit* of the wife committed during the coverture, the husband is liable in law and in equity, as long as both parties are alive, for the acts of his wife as executrix or administratrix, (s<sup>1</sup>) for, as she has no power to

during coverture:

(m) 1 P. Wms. 242.

(n) See the remark of Lord Northington on this distinction. *Haden v. Parsons*, 1 Eden, 148.

(o) 2 Bro. C. C. 117.

(p) *Doyle v. Blake*, 2 Sch. & Lef. 239, 240; [Lewin Trusts (5th Eng. ed.), 222; *Verner's Estate*, 6 Watts, 250; *Brown's case*, 1 Dallas, 311; *ante*, 1802, and note (m<sup>1</sup>), 1809; *McNair's Appeal*, 4 Rawle, 148.]

(q) *Kings v. Hilton*, Cro. Car. 603;

*Heyward's case*, Moore, 761; *Lumley v. Hutton*, 1 Roll. Rep. 268, 269; *Bachelor v. Bean*, 2 Vern. 60; *Com. Dig. Baron & Feme*, N.; *Palmer v. Wakefield*, 3 Beav. 227.

(r) 1 Sch. & Lef. 263.

(s) See *ante*, 1729.

(s<sup>1</sup>) [As to the right and liability of married women to sue and be sued, as if sole, both in actions of contract and tort, in some of the American States, see 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 32, notes (v<sup>1</sup>)

act alone, his assent will be presumed. (i) And it has been holden that the husband, though living separate from his wife, shall be charged with her *devastavit*. (u) So if an executrix and her husband admit assets in answer to a bill filed against them, the assets become a debt of the husband in respect of this admission, and may be proved under a commission of bankruptcy issued against him. (x) If the assets are wasted during the coverture, either by the husband or wife, a creditor or legatee of the testator may, it should seem, sue the wife as well as the husband, and if she predeceases him her estate is answerable. (y)

Upon the death of the wife, the general rule is, that the liability of the husband (except as her administrator) for his wife's *devastavit*, committed as well during coverture as \* before, ceases. (z) And therefore no proceeding can be had, either by action of debt on a *devastavit*, or by a *scire fieri* inquiry, against the husband of an executrix, if she dies after judgment had against her and her husband *de bonis testatoris*. Yet if a general judgment be had against husband and wife executrix, either upon the *scire fieri* inquiry, or in the action of debt, and afterwards the wife dies, the husband shall be charged. (a)

But in equity the surviving husband is liable for whatever assets came to the hands of his wife, or his own hands, during the coverture; upon the principle that all persons coming into possession of property bound by a trust are chargeable in equity as trustees. The cases establishing this head of equity are collected and commented upon by Lord Redesdale in his elaborate judgment in *Adair v. Shaw*, (b) in which case his lordship held that where a *feme covert* obtains administration and the goods are wasted during coverture, and the husband dies, his assets are chargeable in equity for the waste committed during coverture.

and (z), 82, note (g), 83, notes (p) and (q).]

(i) 1 Sch. & Lef. 266. [See *ante*, 232, note (c).]

(u) *Paget v. Read*, 1 Vern. 143.

(x) *Ex parte M'Williams*, 1 Sch. & Lef. 173.

(y) *Kingham v. Lee*, 15 Sim. 401, by *Shadwell V. C.* See *post*, 1840, note (g).

(z) 1 Sch. & Lef. 261.

(a) *Mounson v. Bourn*, Cro. Car. 519; *Baron v. Berkley*, 1 Lutw. 670; 1 Saund. 219 d, note to *Wheatley v. Lane*. Likewise, if the goods of the testator remain in *specie* in the hands of the husband, the party entitled to them may, after the death of the wife, bring an action of trover or detinue against the husband to recover them. 1 Sch. & Lef. 262.

(b) 1 Sch. & Lef. 243.

Accordingly, in *Clough v. Bond*, (c) on the death of an intestate, administration to her estate was granted to her son and daughter. The daughter being then under coverture, the assets were, in May, 1831, paid into a banking-house to the joint account of her husband and her brother, the administrator, and the whole of the fund, with the exception of the share of one of the next of kin, who was abroad, was soon afterwards paid away among the several parties entitled, by means of checks signed by the two persons in whose names the account stood. The husband of the administratrix died in December, 1831, and, ten \* months afterwards, her brother and co-administrator drew out the balance, and, having applied it to his own use, absconded. And it was holden by Sir. L. Shadwell V. C. and afterwards, on appeal, by Lord Cottenham, that the estate of the husband of the administratrix was amenable for the loss. In this case the deposit was held to have been an improper one, and to have amounted to a *devastavit*, of which the husband was the author; inasmuch as by depositing the money in his own name and that of the co-administrator, he excluded his wife, the administratrix, from possessing the control over the co-administrator which she would and ought to have possessed in the event, which happened, of the husband's death before the wife, and gave the co-administrator the absolute power over the fund, and enabled him to appropriate it to himself without the control of his co-administratrix. So, in *Smith v. Smith*, (d) Romilly M. R. said it was now settled law that a husband is liable for all the assets received or *devastavits* committed, either by himself or by his wife during the coverture, in respect of an estate of which his wife was legal personal representative, and that in this respect the husband is liable at law during his life and his estate after his death. (e)

However, although the husband of an administratrix may have become liable to make good, to the next of kin of the intestate, the assets received by himself or his wife during the coverture, yet if the husband, at his death, makes his wife his executrix, and she possesses assets more than sufficient to answer the demands of the next of kin, after paying the other debts, the estate of the

(c) 3 My. & Cr. 499; S. C. *nomine* Giff. 382. As to the liability of the husband of a woman in whom a lease for

*Clough v. Dixon*, 8 Sim. 594.

(d) 21 Beav. 385, 387. years has vested as administratrix, see

(e) See, also, *Charlton v. Coombes*, 4 Kearsley v. Oxley, 2 H. & C. 896.

husband is discharged, and therefore the next of kin cannot sue an administrator *cum testamento annexo* of the husband. (f)

\* Another branch of this subject may now be considered, viz, the responsibility of the married executrix, after the death of her husband, for a *devastavit* committed during the coverture. The rule is, according to the judgment of Lord Redesdale in *Adair v. Shaw*, that though the waste during the coverture be the act of the husband, yet it is an act for which the wife, after the determination of the coverture, is responsible to creditors at law, and, as it should seem, to legatees in equity. (g)

A distinction, indeed, has been taken between cases where the wife is executrix or administratrix *before* the marriage, and those where she became so *afterwards*. In the first case, if she survive her husband, she will be liable to answer, not only for her own wrongful acts in the administration previously to the coverture, but even for those of her husband \* during the continuance of the marriage; because her title as executrix or administratrix having commenced and become complete before the marriage, it was her own folly to take a husband who would so misconduct himself as to waste her testator's or intestate's assets. But in the second

(f) *Tyler v. Bell*, 2 My. & Cr. 89. This case only shows that a repayment by the executor of the husband will discharge his estate. 21 Beav. 389, by Romilly M. R. But where the husband of an executrix made his wife and two others his executrix and executors, and the bill alleged that the husband died possessed of large personal estate, and his wife and the executors possessed themselves of all his personal estate, it was held that the liability of the husband for a *devastavit* in the wife's lifetime was not satisfied by the circumstance of his widow uniting in herself the two characters. *Smith v. Smith*, 21 Beav. 385.

(g) 1 Sch. & Lef. 258; 1 Rep. Husb. & Wife, 198, 2d ed. However, in *Clough v. Dixon*, 8 Sim. 598, ante, 1838, Sir L. Shadwell V. C. said that he had considerable doubt whether, where the plaintiff claimed as one of the next of kin of the intestate, the court could make the widow

responsible for the *devastavit* which was the act of her husband. And his honor added, that he did not think the reasoning of Lord Redesdale was satisfactory, where he said that a married woman, an executrix, would be responsible to the creditors of the testator, after the coverture, for a *devastavit* committed by the husband during the coverture. However, Lord Redesdale's statement of the law was, after much consideration, deliberately upheld by the lords justices (K. Bruce and Turner) in the recent cases of *Soady v. Turnbull*, L. R. 1 Eq. App. Ch. 494. And their lordships accordingly reversed the decree of *Stuart V. C.* who had held, that where during coverture probate was granted to a *feme* executrix, and the husband died insolvent, leaving the wife surviving, who died leaving assets, the wife's assets were not liable to make good the joint receipts of herself and her husband during coverture. 34 L. J. N. S. Ch. 539.

[1840] [1841]

case, it is said the act of the husband, in obtaining probate or letters of administration in his wife's name, if against or without her consent, and she does not afterwards intermeddle in the administration, is an act from which she may dissent after his death, by renunciation, and avoid the consequences of his misconduct. (*h*) If, however, the husband procure probate or letters of administration in his wife's name and *with her consent*, then it seems that she surviving him will be personally answerable, upon the insolvency of his estate, for the waste committed by him of her testator's or intestate's assets; because she by her own act and assent having assumed the office of executrix or administratrix, and being the only legal personal representative of the testator or intestate (which distinguishes this case from that before mentioned, of the husband's discharge by her death from her *devastavit*, he being neither executor nor administrator), became liable with her husband for every act relating to it; and an action or suit lay against both of them, and upon his death the right of action survived against her. (*i*)

On the subject of the accounts of an executor or administrator, there has already been occasion to state, that he must account for all profits which have accrued in his own time, either spontaneously or by his acts, out of the estate of the deceased. (*k*) Therefore, if an executor has a lease for years which yields profits to the value of 20*l.* a year, rendering rent of 10*l.* a year, he shall account for 10*l.* a

Executors' accounts:  
they shall account for all profits:

(*h*) 1 *Rep. Husb. & Wife*, 196, 2d ed. See *ante*, 234.

(*i*) 1 *Rep. Husb. & Wife*, 197, 3d ed.

(*k*) *Ante*, 1657; [*ante*, 974, note (*a*<sup>1</sup>); *post*, 1966, note (*t*), 2057 to 2060, and note (*z*); *Watson v. Whitten*, 3 *Rich. (S. Car.)* 224. It is a fundamental principle in regard to trust estates, that the trustee shall derive to himself no gain, benefit, or advantage, by the use of the trust funds. Whatever of profit may be made shall belong to and become part and parcel of the trust estate. *McKnight v. Walsh*, 24 *N. J. Eq.* 498, 509; *Norris's Appeal*, 71 *Penn. St.* 106.] So he must account for all profits derived from his office as executor, as where he abandons it in favor of another for a valuable consideration. *Sug-*

*den v. Crossland*, 3 *Sm. & G.* 192. [The probate court may require an executor to pay a debt of his testator's estate in the kind of money which he has received as the property of the estate. *Magraw v. McGlynn*, 26 *Cal.* 420. If an administrator pays off the debts of his intestate at a discount, he is entitled to a credit only for the sum paid. *Miller v. Towles*, 4 *J. J. Marsh.* 255; *Heager's Executors*, 15 *John.* 65; *Carruthers v. Corbin*, 38 *Geo.* 75; *Paff v. Kinney*, 1 *Bradf. Sur.* 1. So a person, who, in view of taking the administration of an estate, purchases claims against the estate at a discount, is entitled to credit only for the sum actually paid. *Chevallier v. Wilson*, 1 *Texas*, 161.]

year as assets. (*l*) So if the executor carries on the trade or business \* of the testator, whether in pursuance of a provision in articles of partnership entered into by the deceased, or by direction of the testator contained in his will, or under the direction of the court of chancery, the profits must be accounted for as assets. (*m*) Accordingly, in *Cook v. Collingbridge*, (*n*) a sale of a testator's share in a partnership trade, and the property belonging to it, made by his executors to his partners, for the purpose of being resold to one of his executors, was set aside, and his estate held entitled to his *aliquot* proportion of the subsequent profits as if the partnership had continued. (*o*) And it is a general rule, that an executor cannot be allowed, either immediately or by means of a trustee, to be a purchaser of himself of \* any part of the assets, but shall be considered a trustee for the persons interested in the estate, and shall account for the utmost extent of advantage made by him of the subject so purchased. (*p*) So if an

(*l*) Godolph. pt. 2, c. 24, s. 1; Com. Dig. Assets, C.

(*m*) *Ante*, 1658, 1791, *Palmer v. Mitchell*, 2 My. & K. 672; *Willett v. Blanford*, 1 Hare, 253. *Secus*, where the surviving parties admit the executor into the firm in his individual character, and the business is carried on without employing, in any way, any part of the assets of the testator. *Simpson v. Chapman*, 4 De G., M. & G. 154. Where the executors employ the assets in carrying on the trade for their own benefit, the legatees are entitled at their option to interest at 5 per cent. on the amount of assets employed, or the profits actually made. *Wedderburn v. Wedderburn*, 22 Beav. 100, *post*, 1846. And the executor may be made to account for and pay over the profits, although the persons in partnership with whom he had made those profits are not made parties to the suit. So in the case of surviving partners who are the executors of the deceased partner, and who continued the trade after his death, employing his assets, they must account for the profits made by such employment; 22 Beav. 100; *Townend v. Townend*, 1 Giff. 201; and it made no difference that they have taken a security for it in the form of a mortgage of the real

and personal property belonging to the partnership. 1 Giff. 201.

(*n*) *Jacob*. 607. See 27 Beav. 456, note.

(*o*) "One of the most firmly established rules is, that persons dealing as trustees and executors must put their own interest entirely out of the question, and this is so difficult to do in a transaction in which they are dealing with themselves, that the court will not inquire whether it has been done or not, but at once says that such a transaction cannot stand." By Lord Eldon, *Jacob*. 621. See acc. *Wedderburn v. Wedderburn*, 2 Keen, 722; 4 My. & Cr. 11; *Willett v. Blanford*, 1 Hare, 253. See, also, *Portlock v. Gardner*, 1 Hare, 594, 603. [If an executor or administrator receives from a debtor an allowance over and above the amount of the demand, for extra trouble in the settlement of it, or if he should exact and receive extra interest, it has been held that he could not be charged with either in his administration account. *Gordon v. West*, 8 N. H. 444, 456, 457.]

(*p*) *Hall v. Hallett*, 1 Cox, 134; *Watson v. Toone*, Madd. & Geld. 153; *Smedley v. Varley*, 23 Beav. 358; [*ante*, 650, note (*d*<sup>1</sup>), 938, and note (*A*); *Chapman v.*

[1842] [1843]

executor compounds debts or mortgages, and buys them in for less than is due upon them, he shall not take the benefit of it himself, but other creditors and legatees shall have the advantage of it; and for want of them the benefit shall go to the party who is entitled to the surplus. (*q*) So in a case where the executor of a mortgagee for a term of years purchased the equity of redemption in fee for a small sum in his own name, and for his own benefit, it was held that he was a trustee of the fee for the benefit of the testator's estate. (*r*)

Again, if an executor lays out the assets on private securities, although he shall answer for all deficiencies which may be caused thereby, (*s*) he must account to the estate for all the benefit. (*t*) Indeed, the principle is general, that an executor, if he will take upon himself to act with regard to the testator's property in any other manner than his trust requires, puts himself in this situa-

Comings, 43 Vt. 16; *Beeson v. Beeson*, 9 Penn. St. 279; *Hall's Appeal*, 40 Penn. St. 409; *Miller's Appeal*, 30 Penn. St. 478, 493; *Griswold v. Chandler*, 5 N. H. 492, 498; *Clark v. Blackington*, 110 Mass. 369, 376; *Patton v. Thompson*, 2 Jones Eq. 285; *Verner's Estate*, 6 Watts, 250; *Andrews v. Hobson*, 23 Ala. 219; *Charles v. Dubois*, 29 Ala. 367; *Wiswall v. Stewart*, 32 Ala. 433; *Litchfield v. Cudworth*, 15 Pick. 23; *Robinett's Appeal*, 36 Penn. St. 191; *Bellamy v. Bellamy*, 6 Florida, 62; *Mason v. Martin*, 4 Md. 124; *Spindler v. Atkinson*, 3 Md. 409; *Oliver v. Piatt*, 3 How. 333; *Schoonmaker v. Van Wyke*, 31 Barb. 457; *Davoue v. Fanning*, 2 John. Ch. 252; *Hendricks v. Robinson*, 2 John. Ch. 283; *Evertson v. Tappen*, 5 John. Ch. 497; *Iddings v. Bruen*, 4 Sandf. Ch. 222; *Smith v. Lansing*, 22 N. Y. 530; *Ames v. Downing*, 1 Bradf. Sur. 321; *Yeackel v. Litchfield*, 13 Allen, 417; 2 Sugden V. & P. (8th Am. ed.) 688, note (*m*<sup>1</sup>); *Johnson v. Kay*, 8 Humph. 142; *Green v. Sargeant*, 23 Vt. 466; *Mead v. Byington*, 10 Vt. 116; *Norris's Appeal*, 71 Penn. St. 106, 125. An administrator, with an interest, may purchase at a sale of the intestate's estate; and if he uses the assets of the estate in making such purchase, the distributees may elect to consider the appropriation a conversion,

or may treat the administrator as a trustee. *Julian v. Reynolds*, 8 Ala. 680. It was held in *Petrie v. Clark*, 11 Serg. & R. 377, that equity will follow the assets of the estate into the hands of any one who is not a purchaser for valuable consideration, or although he is a purchaser for such value, if guilty of fraud and collusion with the executor or administrator. See *Rogers v. Fort*, 19 Geo. 94; *Miller v. Williamson*, 5 Md. 219; *Boogen v. Hodges*, 45 Miss. 78; *Cooley v. Brown*, 30 Iowa, 470.]

(*q*) *Anon.* 1 Salk. 155; *Ex parte James*, 8 Ves. 346; [*ante*, 1841, note (*k*); *Calvert v. Holland*, 9 B. Mon. 458.] Where an executor contracted with legatees for the purchase of their legacies, which were accordingly assigned to a trustee for him, in consideration of sums of money less in amount than the legacies, it was admitted that the transaction could not be sustained for the benefit of the executor; and it was also held that the deed of assignment did not operate as a release of the estate, and could not be upheld, as against the legatees who executed it, for the benefit of their co-legatees. *Barton v. Hassard*, 3 Dr. & W. 461.

(*r*) *Fosbrook v. Balguy*, 1 My. & K. 226; 3 Sugd. V. & P. 271, 10th ed.

(*s*) See *ante*, 1808, 1809.

(*t*) *Adye v. Feuilloteau*, 1 Cox, 24.



tion, that if there be any loss he must replace it; but he cannot possibly be a gainer by it; any gain must be for the benefit of his *cestui que trust*. (u)

This may be the proper place to inquire, under what \* circumstances executors or administrators shall be charged with interest on the assets retained in their hands. There are two grounds on which an executor or administrator may be charged with interest: 1st. That he has been guilty of negligence in omitting to lay out the money for the benefit of the estate. 2d. That he himself had made use of the money, or has committed some other *misfeasance*, to his own profit and advantage. (x)

1st. With respect to neglect on the part of the executor in not laying out balances, it must be observed, that it frequently may be necessary and justifiable for an executor to keep large sums in his hands to answer the exigency of the testator's affairs, (y) especially in the course of the first year after the decease of the testator; in which case such necessity is so fully acknowledged, that according to the ordinary course of the court, the fund is not considered distributable until after that time. (z) But if the court observes that an executor keeps money dead in his hands without any apparent reason or necessity, then it becomes negligence, and a breach of trust, and the court will charge the executor with interest. (a) And it seems that outstanding demands, even on

(u) *Piety v. Stace*, 4 Ves. 622; *Crosskill v. Bower*, 32 Beav. 86; [Norris's Appeal, 71 Penn. St. 106, 125.]

(x) *Rocke v. Hart*, 11 Ves. 59, 60; *Tebbs v. Carpenter*, 1 Madd. 306, 307; *Kildare v. Hopson*, 4 Bro. P. C. 550, Toml. ed.; *Lincoln v. Allen*, 4 Bro. P. C. 553, Toml. ed.; *Ashburnham v. Thompson*, 13 Ves. 401.

(y) See *Dawson v. Massey*, 1 Ball. & Beat. 231.

(z) *Forbes v. Ross*, 2 Cox, 115, 116, by Lord Thurlow; [Lewin Trusts (5th Eng. ed.), 279.]

(a) *Littlehales v. Gascoyne*, 3 Bro. C. C. 73; *Brown v. Southouse*, 3 Bro. C. C. 108; *Franklin v. Frith*, 3 Bro. C. C. 433; *Hall v. Hallett*, 1 Cox, 134; *Seers v. Hind*, 1 Ves. jr. 294; *Longmore v. Broom*, 7 Ves. 124; *Ashburnham v.*

*Thompson*, 13 Ves. 401; *Turner v. Turner*, 1 Jac. & W. 39; *Goodchild v. Fenton*, 4 Y. & Jerv. 481; *Stafford v. Fiddon*, 23 Beav. 386; *Johnson v. Prendergast*, 28 Beav. 480; [Brandon v. Hoggatt, 32 Miss. 335, 340; *Lomax v. Pendleton*, 3 Call, 538; *Handly v. Snodgrass*, 9 Leigh, 484; *Darrel v. Eden*, 3 Desaus. 261; *Dunscomb v. Dunscomb*, 1 John. Ch. 508; *Scheffelin v. Stewart*, 1 John. Ch. 620; *Garniss v. Gardiner*, 1 Edw. Ch. 128; *Williamson v. Williamson*, 6 Paige, 298; *Chase v. Lockerman*, 11 Gill & J. 185; *Armstrong v. Miller*, 6 Ham. 118; *Aston's Estate*, 5 Whart. 228; *Lund v. Lund*, 41 N. H. 359; *Duncan v. Dent*, 5 Rich. Eq. 7, 11; *English v. Harvey*, 2 Rawle, 305; *Merrick's Estate*, 2 Ashm. 357; *M'Call's Estate*, 1 Ashm. 305; *Billington's Appeal*, 3 Rawle, 48; *Clarke's*

probable grounds, are no reason \* why the executors should not lay the testator's money out. (b) But an executor shall not be

Appeal, 2 Watts, 405; *Ogilvie v. Ogilvie*, 1 Bradf. Sur. 356; *Hasler v. Hasler*, 1 Bradf. Sur. 248. The rule for charging executors and administrators with interest, in Massachusetts, was stated by Parker C. J. in *Wyman v. Hubbard*, 13 Mass. 232, 233. "The general rule," he says, "has been, not to charge executors with interest when their accounts are settled in ordinary course: and the reason is, that they are not at liberty to risk the money belonging to the estate which they represent; and are to be always ready to pay it over, according to the directions of the will or the decree of the probate court. They ought not to be presumed to have made profitable use of it; because it would be contrary to their duty to use it at all. This rule admits of an exception; when it shall appear that the executors have actually made use of the money; and this fact may be proved by direct testimony, or may be inferred from a long delay in settling their accounts, or in paying over balances in their hands after they have been demanded, and perhaps from other circumstances." *Stearns v. Brown*, 1 Pick. 530, 531, 532; *Morton J. in Boynton v. Dyer*, 18 Pick. 1, 7; *Williams v. American Bank*, 4 Met. 317, 324. The rule is more concisely stated by Mr. Justice Wilde in *Stearns v. Brown*, 1 Pick. 531. "The general principle is," he says, "that administrators are not chargeable with interest, for money remaining in their hands, unless they loan it and receive interest, or make some profitable use of it, or unreasonably detain it." The same rule has been adopted in

Maine. *Knight v. Loomis*, 30 Maine, 204, 209, 210. And in New Hampshire, in *Griswold v. Chandler*, 5 N. H. 497, *Richardson C. J.* said: "The true rule is, that in all cases, where the administrator, without any just reason or excuse, retains the money in his own hands unemployed, when it ought to be paid over; in all cases where he receives interest for money which belongs to the estate; and in all cases where he applies money belonging to the estate to his own use; he ought to be charged with interest. It is believed that an administrator is never charged with interest except in these cases." The same rule is stated and applied in subsequent cases. *Gilchrist C. J.* in *Mathes v. Bennett*, 21 N. H. 199; *Wendell v. French*, 19 N. H. 213; *Sargent J.* in *Lund v. Lund*, 41 N. H. 359. See, also, to the same effect, *The State v. Mayhew*, 4 Halst. 70, 77; *Voorhees v. Stoothoff*, 6 Halst. 145; *Lake v. Park*, 4 Harrison, 199; *Darrel v. Eden*, 3 Desaus. 241; *Turney v. Williams*, 173, 213; *Norris's Appeal*, 71 Penn. St. 106; *Dexter v. Arnold*, 3 Mason, 290. In New York it is held to be the duty of an executor or administrator, as well as that of a special administrator, to deposit the funds of the estate in a solvent bank, or other institution that receives money on deposit, subject to demand; and he may receive interest thereon from the depository. But he has no right to deposit in his individual name; nor to loan the funds on time; nor to continue a deposit for an unreasonable length of time. *Baskin v. Baskin*, 4 Lansing, 90. As to interest, it is not ordinarily chargeable

(b) 3 Bro. C. C. 434; 1 Madd. 305. It was resolved by Sir Joseph Jekyll, in *Taylor v. Gerst*, Mosely, 99, that if money placed out at interest be called in by the executor without any cause, he shall pay interest for it. But in *Newton v. Bennet*, 1 Bro. C. C. 361, Lord Thurlow said that

an executor had an honest discretion to call in a debt bearing interest, if he thought the same in hazard. It should seem that he ought to lay it out again immediately in the three per cents. or other authorized security.

charged with interest for a balance in his hands, retained under a fair apprehension of his right to it. (c)

against an executor or administrator for the period of a year after the issuing of his letters, especially if the funds of the estate have been kept separate and not mixed with his own. But at all times, if he has employed the funds, he will be charged with interest on the ground of the use of the assets for his own benefit. Even where he is justified in retaining the assets, if they have been employed by him to his own advantage, he is chargeable with interest on the ground that he cannot be allowed to make profit out of the estate. *Ogilvie v. Ogilvie*, 1 Bradf. Sur. 356. In *Jacot v. Emmett*, 11 Paige, 145, the chancellor said that, if the administrator has mixed the money belonging to the estate of his intestate with his own, and has used it, so that he has it not on hand when he is called on for payment, he may unquestionably be charged with interest, according to the settled rule of the court in such cases. "But a mere neglect by an administrator to invest moneys which he may be called upon to pay over to the distributees at any moment, would be no ground for charging him with interest, if the money was kept in bank or otherwise, ready to be paid over when called for. Indeed, the administrator would not be authorized to loan the fund, to which adult distributees were immediately entitled, at their risk, and without authority from them." *Burtis v. Dodge*, 1 Barb. Ch. 77. Should no unreasonable

delay occur, and the executor or administrator has not applied the funds to his own use, he will not be charged with interest. *Minuse v. Cox*, 5 John. Ch. 441, 448. But where an administrator had the funds of the estate in cash for six years, and did not show that the money was kept in bank or otherwise ready to be paid over when called for, and did not explain the delay in closing the estate, he was held chargeable with interest, on the presumption that he had used the funds. *Hasler v. Hasler*, 1 Bradf. Sur. 248. The general practice appears to be, not to hold executors and administrators, *prima facie*, chargeable with interest during the time the law allows them for getting in the estate and settling their accounts, which is most commonly one year after administration is taken out; see *Fox v. Wilcocks*, 1 Binn. 194; *Brandon v. Hoggatt*, 32 Miss. 335, 340; but they will still be charged, if it be proved that they have received interest or have used the money during that time — those facts rendering every depositary of money liable for interest. *Verner's Estate*, 6 Watts, 250. See *Findley v. Smith*, 7 Serg. & R. 264, 268; *Commonwealth v. Mattee*, 16 Serg. & R. 416, 421; *Fox v. Wilcocks*, 1 Binn. 194; *Walthour v. Walthour*, 2 Grant Cas. 102; *Bitzer v. Hahn*, 14 Serg. & R. 232. After that period, they are liable *prima facie*, after a reasonable time, which is

(c) *Bruere v. Pemberton*, 12 Ves. 386; [*Wright v. Grovier*, 25 Mich. 428.] So as to money paid away under a mistake as to the legal right to it. *Saltmarsh v. Barrett*, 31 Beav. 349. An administrator *pendente lite* is not liable to pay interest upon a balance in his hands, during the pendency of the suit in the ecclesiastical court. *Gallivan v. Evans*, 1 Ball & Beat. 191. [An executor or administrator is liable to pay interest, if he improperly neglects to settle his account for a long

period; *Lyles v. Hatton*, 6 Gill & J. 122; *Turney v. Williams*, 7 Yerger, 172; or to distribute when he ought; *Gray v. Thompson*, 1 John. Ch. 82; *Griswold v. Chandler*, 5 N. H. 497; *Smithers v. Hooper*, 23 Md. 273; *Wright v. Grovier*, 25 Mich. 428; but not if those interested in the estate of the deceased have been equally guilty of laches in protracting the settlement. *Forward v. Forward*, 6 Allen, 494.]

As to the rate of interest which the executor shall pay, the rule appears to be, that in these cases, where negligence alone is imputable to him, he shall be charged only with rate of interest:

generally six months, for interest on all money which has come to their hands, or at least on the annual balance in their hands; *Merrick's Estate*, 1 Ashm. 305; *Boynnton v. Dyer*, 18 Pick. 2, 8; *Gilman v. Gilman*, 2 Lansing, 1; and can discharge himself only by showing that he appropriated it duly to the purposes of the estate; or, if he retained the money, that he retained it idle in his hands, according to his duty, and *bonâ fide*, to await the event of suits brought, or likely to be brought against the estate; *Lamb v. Lamb*, 11 Pick. 371, 374, 375; *Wilson v. Wilson*, 3 Gill & J. 20, 24; *Pace v. Burton*, 1 McCord Ch. 247; *Lafont v. Ricard*, 1 Bailey Eq. 487; *Arndt v. Linney*, 1 Dev. Eq. 369; *Grattan v. Appleton*, 3 Story, 755, 766; *Burtis v. Dodge*, 1 Barb. Ch. 78, 90; *Dortch v. Dortch*, 71 N. Car. 224; or can show as against a distributee or legatee, that no demand was made and refunding bond tendered (where that is required before suit brought to give a right of action), and in case of a minor, no guardian appointed; and also that he has not used the money; *Patterson v. Nichol*, 6 Watts, 379, 382; *Handy v. The State*, 7 Harr. & J. 43, 46; *Thompson v. Sanders*, 6 J. J. Marsh. 94, 99; *Overstreet v. Potts*, 4 Dana, 138; *Cavendish v. Fleming*, 3 Munf. 198, 201; *Sparhawk v. Buell*, 9 Vt. 42, 82; but see *Flintham's Appeal*, 11 Serg. & R. 16; *Bourne v. Meehan*, 1 Grattan, 292; *Hallett v. Allen*, 13 Ala. 555, 558; and if any of these can be shown, he is not liable. In short, the liability of executors and administrators to be charged with interest, depends upon their performing or neglecting their duties, under the circumstances of the particular case. *Slade v. Slade*, 10 Vt. 192, 195; *Wood v. Garnett*, 6 Leigh, 271; *Chase v. Lockerman*, 11 Gill & J. 186, 208; *Bitzer v. Hahn*, 14 Serg. & R. 232, 239; *Brandon v. Hoggatt*, 32 Miss. 335, 340. They are liable to interest if they

neglect unreasonably, or refuse to account; for in that case, it will be presumed that they have used the money. *Moor v. Beauchamp*, 5 Dana, 70, 78; *Lyles v. Hatton*, 6 Gill & J. 122, 135; *Comegys v. The State*, 10 Gill & J. 176, 186. Interest with annual rests may be charged against an executor or administrator upon an amount improperly retained by him as commissions which are disallowed. *McKnight v. Walsh*, 24 N. J. Eq. 498; *S. C.* 23 N. J. Eq. 136. Where an executor or administrator is entitled to commissions, but chargeable with interest, the interest will be calculated on the balance after deducting the commissions, although the allowance of them may not be made until the settlement of the administration account. *Callaghan v. Hall*, 1 Serg. & R. 241. It has been held that an administrator is liable for interest, where by his wrongful acts he disappoints claimants, as by a mispayment. *Jones v. Ward*, 10 Yerger, 161, 163. And, generally, interest is to be charged on all sums received by an executor or administrator and not applied to the purposes of the estate. *McCaw v. Blewit*, 1 Bailey Eq. 98, 102. But where executors and administrators are not in default, they are not chargeable with interest; accordingly, it has been held that they are not subject to interest on funds in their hands during the pendency of their accounts in the court, on exceptions or appeal, because it could not be paid over before final confirmation; *Hoopes v. Brinton*, 8 Watts, 73; *Wendell v. French*, 19 N. H. 205, 213; *Duncan v. Dent*, 5 Rich. Eq. 7; see *January v. Poyntz*, 2 B. Mon. 404; *Yundt's Appeal*, 13 Penn. St. 575, 581, 582; *Young v. Brush*, 38 Barb. 294; *Brandon v. Hoggatt*, 32 Miss. 335; *Flintham's Appeal*, 11 Serg. & R. 17; unless during the interval they make use of the money. *Stearns v. Brown*, 1 Pick. 530, 533. As a general rule, an executor or administrator, during the pendency of a

4l. per cent., in respect of the balances, which he ought to have laid out, either in compliance with the express directions of the will, or from his general duty, where the will is silent on the sub-

suit for an account and distribution of the fund in his hands, should ask for leave to pay such fund into court, or for authority to invest it under the direction and sanction of the court, and if he invests it without the sanction of the court, on insufficient security, he will be charged with the amount thus invested, as a misapplication of so much of the fund. *Hosack v. Rogers*, 9 Paige, 461. But after final settlement, and an order for distribution, he becomes liable for interest without a demand. *Henny v. State*, 9 Miss. 778. Where an executor or administrator, after settling the estate, becomes, or acts as guardian, or the executor is, by the will, clothed with a trust to invest, they become liable as guardians or trustees to invest are; and are chargeable with interest, simple or compound, according to circumstances, if they do not invest. *Karr v. Karr*, 6 Dana, 3, 5; *Smith v. Lampton*, 8 Dana, 69, 73; *Adams v. Spalding*, 12 Conn. 350, 360; *Bitzer v. Hahn*, 14 Serg. & R. 232. As to the time from which interest is to be computed, in case of negligence on the part of executors and administrators in suffering money to lie idle, Chancellor Kent said in *Duncomb v. Duncomb*, 1 John. Ch. 511, "There does not appear to be any absolute rule, and the time must vary according to circumstances. It would be laying too heavy a hand upon executors, to charge interest from the moment money was received. In some cases, executors are allowed a year to look out for some due appropriation of the money, and in other cases it would be unreasonable. Here the executors show no pains or effort to discharge themselves of the money. I observe that six months was the time allowed, in a like case, by the civil law, to the tutor to invest the funds; and if the defendants are charged with interest after six months from the time they received it, it will not be unreasonable in this case." See Ring-

gold *v. Ringgold*, 1 H. & Gill, 11; *Merrick's Estate*, 2 Ashm. 485; *Worrell's Appeal*, 23 Penn. St. 44; *Voorhees v. Stoothoff*, 6 Halst. 155; *McKnight v. Walsh*, 24 N. J. Eq. 498, 509. In *Cogswell v. Cogswell*, 2 Edw. Ch. 231, a year from the testator's death was allowed to make an investment directed in the stock of the United States Bank; and, on the other hand, in *Barney v. Saunders*, 16 How. (U. S.) 544, three months appears to have been considered sufficient. The executor must, of course, have a reasonable time, under all the circumstances, to seek investments. *Dillard v. Tomlinson*, 1 Munf. 183; *Carter v. Cutting*, 5 Munf. 223; *Ringgold v. Ringgold*, 1 H. & Gill, 11.] In order to give a claim for interest, there must be a clear case of improper retention of balances to a considerable or substantial amount. *Jones v. Morrall*, 2 Sim. N. S. 241, 252. See, also, *Davenport v. Stafford*, 14 Beav. 319. [See *Estate of McQueen*, 44 Cal. 584. There may be circumstances where interest will only be allowed on accumulated balances; as where the annual balances are too small to have been put to interest; where the trustee receives no credit or profit from the act; or the act was accidental, or beneficial to the *cestui que trust*. *Rapalje v. Norsworthy*, 1 Sandf. Ch. 399; *Graves's Appeal*, 50 Penn. St. 189; *Bond v. Abbott*, 42 Ala. 499; *Woods v. Garnett*, 6 Leigh, 271; *Luken's Appeal*, 47 Penn. St. 356; *Fay v. Howe*, 1 Pick. 527; *Gilman v. Gilman*, 2 Lansing, 1. It has been held the proper mode of taking the account to treat funds received during the current year as unproductive until its close, and to regard all expenditures, including compensation and commissions of trustees, in the course of the year, as made before the balance struck; and then to strike a balance, on which, as a general rule, interest is to be allowed, but in such a way as to avoid compounding interest.

ject. (*d*) In order to induce the court to charge the executor with more than 4l. per cent. a special case is necessary. (*e*)

But 2dly. Where there has been a direct breach of trust, the executor may be charged with a higher rate of interest. With respect to employing assets to his own advantage, Lord Hardwicke, on two occasions, (*f*) expressed an opinion that an executor might do so without impropriety, and without being liable to any charge for interest. But this \*doctrine has been entirely overruled by more modern cases. (*g*) And it is now established, that if the executor makes use of the money, he ought to pay the interest he made; (*h*) upon the principle just above considered, that he ought not to derive any profit from the trust property. (*i*) Hence, it has become a settled rule that if a trustee, having trust money in his hands, knowingly applies it to his own use, or in his trade, he shall be charged with interest at the rate of 5l. per cent. (*k*) If the fund is employed in trade, the *cestui que trusts* have a right to an option of taking either the interest or the profits which have

Pettus v. Clawson, 4 Rich. Eq. 92; Clarkson v. De Peyster, 2 Wend. 78; Vanderheyden v. Vanderheyden, 2 Paige, 288; Luken's Appeal, 47 Penn. St. 356; Boynton v. Dyer, 18 Pick. 1; Reynolds v. Walker, 29 Miss. 250; Roach v. Jelks, 40 Miss. 754; Crump v. Gerock, 40 Miss. 765; Rowland v. Best, 2 McCord Ch. 317; Jordan v. Hunt, 2 Hill Eq. 145; Walker v. Bynum, 4 Desaus. 555; Jones v. Ward, 10 Yerger, 160; Powell v. Powell, 10 Ala. 900; Burwell v. Anderson, 3 Leigh, 348; Garnett v. Carr, 3 Leigh, 407; Campbell v. Williams, 3 Monr. 122. When the executor or other trustee pays the money into court, interest ceases, of course.] The executors may be charged with interest on balances, though not claimed by the bill. 1 Jac. & W. 39. See 2 Sim. N. S. 241.

(*d*) Dornforth v. Dornforth, 12 Ves. 130, note (29), 2d ed.; S. C. cited 1 Madd. 302; Ashburnham v. Thompson, 13 Ves. 401; Roche v. Hart, 11 Ves. 58, 60, 61; Tebbs v. Carpenter, 1 Madd. 307; Sutton v. Sharp, 1 Russ. 151; Melland v. Gray, 2 Coll. 295; [English v. Harvey, 2 Rawle, 305.]

(*e*) 1 Madd. 306; Mousley v. Carr, 4

Beav. 49; Hosking v. Nicholls, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 478, 480.

(*f*) Adams v. Gale, 2 Atk. 106; Child v. Gibson, 2 Atk. 603.

(*g*) Perkyns v. Baynton, 1 Bro. C. C. 375; Newton v. Bennet, 1 Bro. C. C. 361; Forbes v. Ross, 2 Bro. C. C. 430; Tebbs v. Carpenter, 1 Madd. 304.

(*h*) Forbes v. Ross, 2 Cox, 116; Roche v. Hart, 11 Ves. 60; [Barney v. Saunders, 16 How. (U. S.) 543; Oswald's Appeal, 3 Grant Cas. 300; Martin v. Rayborn, 42 Ala. 468.]

(*i*) *Ante*, 1841.

(*k*) Mousley v. Carr, 4 Beav. 49; [Manning v. Manning, 1 John. Ch. 527; Schieffelin v. Stewart, 1 John. Ch. 620, 625, 626; Brown v. Ricketts, 4 John. Ch. 303, 305; 2 Story Eq. Jur. § 1277; Myers v. Myers, 2 McCord, 214, 266; Diffenderfer v. Winder, 3 Gill & J. 311; Blauvelt v. Ackerman, 5 C. E. Green, 148, 149; Staats v. Bergen, 2 C. E. Green, 554, 562, 563; Miller v. Beverleys, 4 Hen. & Munf. 415; Griswold v. Chandler, 5 N. H. 497; Lund v. Lund, 41 N. H. 359; Wendell v. French, 19 N. H. 213; Christie's Estate, 1 Tuck. N. Y. Sur. 81.]

arisen from the trade ;(*l*) but they must elect to take either the profits for the whole period or the interest for the whole period. (*m*) If it be shown that the executor used the property in his trade, and the amount of the profits made by him does not appear, the court takes it for granted that he made 5*l*. per cent. at the least, and it is incumbent on him to show that he made less. (*n*) It has been further established, that if an executor or other trustee mixes trust funds with his private moneys, and employs them both in a trade or adventure of his own, the *cestui que trust* may, if he prefers it, insist upon having a proportionate share of the profits, instead of interest on the amount of the trust funds so employed. (*o*) And it should seem to be now settled, that \*an executor who, being a trader, and having, of course, an account with a banker, places the assets at his banker's in his own name, by that means increasing the balances in his favor, acquiring additional credit, and enjoying in his business the advantages naturally arising from that circumstance, must be considered as having employed the money for his own benefit, and must, therefore, be charged with interest at 5*l*. per cent. (*p*)

(*l*) *Burden v. Burden*, cited 1 Jac. & W. 134; *Wedderburn v. Wedderburn*, 22 Beav. 100; *ante*, 1841, note (*k*); [*Utica Ins. Co. v. Lynch*, 11 Paige, 524; *Billingslea v. Glenn*, 45 Ala. 540; *Matter of Holbert*, 39 Cal. 597; *Robinett's Appeal*, 36 Penn. St. 174; *Brown v. Ricketts*, 4 John. Ch. 303; *Wells J. in Marsh v. Renton*, 99 Mass. 135; *Lewin Trusts* (5th Eng. ed.) 276; *Barney v. Saunders*, 16 How. (U. S.) 543; *Norris's Appeal*, 71 Penn. St. 125; *Estate of Brown*, 8 Phil. (Penn.) 197; *Whitney v. Peddicord*, 63 Ill. 249; *Johnson v. Hedrick*, 33 Ind. 129; *Powell v. Cooper*, 42 Miss. 221.]

(*m*) *Heathcote v. Hulme*, 1 Jac. & W. 122.

(*n*) *Rocke v. Hart*, 11 Ves. 61; [*Bentley v. Shreve*, 2 Md. Ch. 219; *Rapalje v. Norsworthy*, 1 Sandf. Ch. 339.] It should seem that interest shall in no case be charged at less than 5*l*. per cent. when the fund has been embarked in trade without authority. 1 Jac. & W. 134, 135. See, also, *Robinson v. Robinson*, 1 De G., M. & G. 257, by Lord Cranworth.

(*o*) *Docker v. Somes*, 2 My. & K. 655; *Wedderburn v. Wedderburn*, 2 Keen, 722; 4 My. & Cr. 41; *Willett v. Blandford*, 1 Hare, 253; *Portlock v. Gardner*, 1 Hare, 594, 603; [*Norris's Appeal*, 71 Penn. St. 106, 125; *Ivey v. Coleman*, 42 Ala. 409; *McElroy v. Thompson*, 42 Ala. 656.]

(*p*) *Treves v. Townshend*, 1 Bro. C. C. 385; *Rocke v. Hart*, 11 Ves. 61; *Sutton v. Sharp*, 1 Russ. 151, 152; [*Lewin Trusts* (5th Eng. ed.), 276; *Mayor of Berwick-upon-Tweed v. Murray*, 7 De G., M. & G. 519; *Mumford v. Murray*, 6 John. Ch. 1; *Beverleys v. Miller*, 6 Munf. 99; *Diffenderffer v. Winder*, 3 Gill & J. 341; *Norris's Appeal*, 71 Penn. St. 106; *Garniss v. Gardiner*, 1 Edw. Ch. 128; *Jacot v. Emmett*, 11 Paige, 142; *Kellett v. Rathbun*, 4 Paige, 102; *De Peyster v. Clarkson*, 2 Wend. 77; *Spear v. Tinkham*, 2 Barb. Ch. 211; *Peyton v. Smith*, 2 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 325; *Jameson v. Shelby*, 2 Humph. 198; *Dyott's Estate*, 2 Watts & S. 565; *Merrick's Estate*, 2 Ashm. 485; *In re Thorp, Davies*, 290; *Kerr v. Laird*, 27 Miss. 544;] S. P. although the will authorized the ex-

There are many other cases where executors, who have applied the assets in direct dereliction of their duty, have been charged with 5*l.* per cent. interest. Thus, in *Forbes v. Ross*, (*q*) there was an express trust, by a direction in the will, to lay out the fund in the purchase of lands, or upon heritable or personal securities, at such a rate of interest as the executors should think reasonable; so that they were at liberty, using their discretion soundly and fairly and honestly, to lend it to anybody that they might suppose would give a reasonable interest for it, considering at the same time the degree of responsibility of the person to whom it was lent. They lent the fund to one of themselves, on bond of 4*l.* per cent. when 5*l.* per cent. might have been made by heritable or government securities. And it was held that he should be charged with 5*l.* per cent. interest. So, in *Piety v. Stace*, (*r*) the will directed the executor to place the money in the public funds, or upon mortgages, or other good securities, and to pay the dividends and interest to certain persons for life, and after their death to dispose of the capital in a certain mode. The executor called in part of the property \* which was out on security, used it generally in his trade, and in various transactions in the public funds, paying only the dividends of the stock to the persons entitled under the will, and he lent part to his son. And Lord Alvanley directed an account of all the executor had made, with the interest at the rate of 5*l.* per cent. upon the balances in his hands. In *Pocock v. Reddington*, (*s*) the executor and trustee having been guilty of a breach of trust by selling out stock and dealing improperly with the money, Lord Alvanley held that the *cestui que trust* had an option to have the stock replaced or the money pro-

ecutor to invest the residue on "good private securities." *Westover v. Chapman*, 1 Coll. 177. See, also, *In re Hilliard*, 1 Ves. jr. 90; *Melland v. Gray*, 2 Coll. 295; *Williams v. Powell*, 15 Beav. 461. But see, *contra*, *Perkyns v. Baynton*, 1 Bro. C. C. 375; *Browne v. Southouse*, 3 Bro. C. C. 107. [In *Duncomb v. Duncomb*, 1 John. Ch. 510, Chancellor Kent says: "The rule is founded in justice and good policy; it prevents abuse, and it indemnifies against negligence." See *Brown v. Ricketts*, 4 John. Ch. 303, 305. But there must be some element of a breach of trust in the transaction, or violation of

duty. *McKnight v. Walsh*, 23 N. J. Eq. 136; *S. C.* 24 N. J. Eq. 492; *Rapalje v. Norsworthy*, 1 Sandf. Ch. 399.] See *Burdick v. Garrick*, 5 L. R. Ch. App. 223, as to what is employment of money in business. [If the trustee is a member of a firm of bankers, and he deposits with the firm in his own name as trustee, he will not be charged with interest, although the firm made a profit on the deposit. *Hess's Estate*, 69 Penn. St. 454.]

(*q*) 2 Cox, 113; *S. C.* 2 Bro. C. C. 430.

(*r*) 4 Ves. 620.

(*s*) 5 Ves. 794.



duced by the sales, with interest at 5*l.* per cent. or more, if more had been made by it, and the costs occasioned by the executor's misconduct. (t) In *Mosley v. Ward*, (u) an executor in trust for infants, unnecessarily calling in the property, out upon good security at 5*l.* per cent., except a small part, keeping large balances in his hands, and using it as his own, was ordered by Lord Eldon to be charged with interest at 5*l.* per cent. and costs. In *Bick v. Motley*, (x) the master found that two executors had, by signing joint checks, enabled each other to receive sums belonging to the estate of their testatrix, when they were both largely indebted to that estate; and that the sums so received by them were debts provable under their respective commissions, both executors having become bankrupt. Sir C. Pepys M. R. said that as, in respect of such sums, the executors had each committed a *devastavit*, each was chargeable, according to the uniform practice of the court, with interest at 5*l.* per cent. upon the sums which he had enabled his co-executor to receive. And his honor accordingly made an order, that interest at that rate should be added to the principal sums to be proved against the bankrupts' estates respectively. (y) In *Jones v. Foxall*, (z) and \**Williams v. Powell*, (a) Romilly M. R. stated the rule as established by the authorities, that if an executor has retained balances in his hands, which he ought to have invested, the court will charge him with simple interest at 4*l.* per cent. on the balances; but if in addition to such retention he has committed a direct breach of trust, or been guilty of misconduct, he will be charged after the rate of 5*l.* per cent. (b)

(t) See, also, *Bate v. Scales*, 12 Ves. 402.

(u) 11 Ves. 581.

(x) 2 My. & K. 312.

(y) See, also, *Munch v. Cockerell*, 9 Sim. 339, 351; confirmed as to charging the trustees with interest at 5*l.* per cent., by Lord Cottenham, 5 My. & Cr. 178, 220.

(z) 15 Beav. 388.

(a) 15 Beav. 461.

(b) See, also, the rule stated by the same judge in *Knott v. Cottee*, 16 Beav. 80; [*Voorhees v. Stoothoff*, 6 Halst. 145. The burden of proof is on the executor or trustee to show that he has made no profits, or received no benefit from the funds;

and if he refuses to account or to show the amount of profits received, the court will give compound interest, in order that it may be made certain that the *cestui que trust* gets the profits of the trade or business in which the executor or trustee has employed the money. *Swindall v. Swindall*, 8 Ired. Eq. 286; *Diffenderffer v. Winder*, 3 Gill & J. 311; *Bryant v. Craig*, 12 Ala. 354; *Karr v. Karr*, 6 Dana, 3; *Smith v. Kennard*, 38 Ala. 695; *Hugh v. Smith*, 2 Dana, 253; *McElhenny's Appeal*, 61 Penn. St. 188; *Ringgold v. Ringgold*, 1 H. & Gill, 11. But if it appears that the money was used in business, but that the profits were not equal to the interest, annual rests will be refused. *Kyle*

But in the latter case of *The Attorney General v. Alford*, (c) Lord Cranworth C. said he could not understand the principle on which the court can proceed *in pœnam* to punish the executor for his misconduct, by making him account for more interest than he has received. And his lordship stated his opinion to be, that the court ought, in the case of an executor who has money in his hands which he ought to invest and does not invest, to charge him only with the interest which he has received, or which the court is justly entitled to say he ought to have received, or which it is so fairly to be presumed that he did receive, that he is estopped from saying that he did not receive it. (c<sup>1</sup>) And the learned judge added, that misconduct did not seem to him to warrant the conclusion that the executor did in point of fact receive, or is estopped from saying that he did not receive, the interest, or that he is to be charged with anything he did not receive, if it is not misconduct contributing to that particular result. And his lordship proceeded to hold (varying a decree of Stuart V. C.), (d) that an executor who for several years had retained funds in his hands uninvested, which he ought to have invested, was chargeable only with simple interest at 4l. per cent. there being no circumstance to lead to the conclusion that he had made any profit by his misconduct. (d<sup>1</sup>) If, indeed, it had appeared that he had improperly used the money for his own purposes, the court would not inquire what had been the actual proceeds of his speculation,

*v. Barnett*, 17 Ala. 306; *Ringgold v. Ringgold*, 1 H. & Gill, 11; *Myers v. Myers*, 2 McCord Ch. 214; *Wright v. Wright*, 2 McCord Ch. 185; *Utica Ins. Co. v. Lynch*, 11 Paige, 521; *Johnson v. Miller*, 33 Miss. 553.]

(c) 4 De G., M. & G. 483, 851, 852; *Burdick v. Garrick*, L. R. 5 Ch. App. 233, 241.

(c<sup>1</sup>) [Norris's Appeal, 71 Penn. St. 106, 125, 126.]

(d) 2 Sm. & G. 488.

(d<sup>1</sup>) [See *Mayor of Berwick-upon-Tweed v. Murray*, 7 De G., M. & G. 497; *Lewin Trusts* (5th Eng. ed.), 276-280; *Hill Trustees* (3d Am. ed.), 547 *et seq.*, and notes and cases cited; *Blogg v. Johnson*, L. R. 4 Ch. App. 225, 228; *Turner v. Burkinshaw*, L. R. 2 Ch. App. 488; *Frey*

*v. Frey*, 2 C. E. Green, 72, 74; *Barney v. Saunders*, 16 How. (U. S.) 542, 543; *Schieffelin v. Stewart*, 1 John. Ch. 620; *Burdick v. Garrick*, L. R. 5 Ch. App. 233. Where an executor who was, by the will, directed to reserve from the testator's personal estate, and invest money for the purpose of paying a legacy, did reserve, but did not invest, the money, it was held that the executor was chargeable with interest from the time, as shown by his account, when the legacy was taken from the personal estate, and that as he had detained instead of investing the money, annual rests were to be allowed. *Elliott v. Sparrell*, 114 Mass. 404. See *Boynton v. Dyer*, 18 Pick. 1; *Miller v. Congdon*, 14 Gray, 114.]

but would infer \*he either did make 5*l.* per cent. or ought to be estopped from saying that he did not. (*e*)

As a general rule, the court decrees the computation of simple interest to be made. (*f*) But there are instances in which an executor has been charged with compound interest. Thus in *Raphael v. Boehm*, (*g*) a legacy was given to the executor, with a declaration in the will, that such a legacy should be in full for the trouble he might have in performing the duties of the will, and that he should not have any claim for commission, or derive any advantage from keeping in his possession any sums of money, without duly accounting for the legal interest thereof. The testator then disposed of the residue upon certain trusts for his children, and directed that a sufficient part of the interest of the portions should be applied to the maintenance, &c. of each child, and the surplus should be accumulated. The executor did not lay the money out as directed, but kept upwards of 30,000*l.* in his hands, and used it in his trade, so that there was a wilful violation of the will, which prohibited retainer and directed accumulation. And Lord Loughborough decreed that an account should be taken from the moment of the testator's death, and interest be charged upon all the sums received, and rests to be made half-yearly upon the balance, including intermediate interest; so that double compound interest was given. The cause came on afterwards before Lord Eldon, upon exceptions to the master's report, and though his lordship did not approve of the decree, yet he agreed in the propriety of giving compound interest. So in *Knot v. Cottee*, (*h*)

(*e*) See accord. *Mayor of Berwick-upon-Tweed v. Murray*, 7 De G., M. & G. 497, 519, in which case Lord Cranworth said that it was a mistake to suppose that he had laid it down in *The Attorney General v. Alford*, that a defaulting trustee could never be charged with more than 4*l.* per cent. [See *Lewin Trusts* (5th Eng. ed.), 276, 277. In *Burdick v. Garrick*, L. R. 5 Ch. App. 241, Lord Hatherley L. C. said: "The principle laid down in the case of *Attorney General v. Alford* appears to be the sound principle, namely, that the court does not proceed against an accounting party by way of punishing him for making use of the plaintiff's money by directing rests, or

payment of compound interest, but proceeds upon this principle, either that he has made, or has put himself into such a position as that he is presumed to have made five per cent. or compound interest, as the case may be. If the court finds that the money has been invested in an ordinary trade, the whole course of decisions has tended to this, that the court presumes that the party against whom relief is sought has made that amount of profit which persons ordinarily do make in trade, and in those cases the court directs rests to be made."]

(*f*) *Robinson v. Cumming*, 2 Atk. 410.

(*g*) 11 Ves. 92; 13 Ves. 407, 590.

(*h*) 16 Beav. 77.

where there was an express trust for accumulation, Romilly M. R. held that, though the circumstances were not such as to make it right to charge the \* executor with more than 4l. per cent. interest on moneys which he had improperly invested, yet it was a case for annual rests. And other instances, where, in executors' accounts, interest has been given with rests will be found in the cases cited in the note below. (i) And it has been held by Romilly M. R. on two late occasions, (k) that if an executor employs the assets in trade or speculation, for his own benefit, he shall be charged either with the profits actually so obtained by him for the use of the money, or with compound interest at 5l. per cent. (k<sup>1</sup>)

(i) *Stackpole v. Stackpole*, 4 Dow. 209; *Willson v. Carmichael*, 2 Dow & Cl. 58; *Walker v. Woodward*, 1 Russ. 107; *Townend v. Townend*, 1 Giff. 201; *Walrond v. Walrond*, 29 Beav. 586. See, also, on this subject, *Binnington v. Harwood*, 1 Turn. & R. 481, and Lord Brougham's judgment in *Docker v. Somea*, 2 My. & K. 655; [*Karr v. Karr*, 6 Dana, 3; *Hodge v. Hawkins*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 564; *Lesley v. Lesley*, 1 Dev. Eq. 117; *Bowles v. Drayton*, 1 Desaus. 489; *Latimer v. Hanson*, 1 Bland, 51; *Winder v. Diffenderffer*, 2 Bland, 166; *Lathrop v. Smalley*, 23 N. J. Eq. 192; *McKnight v. Walsh*, 23 N. J. Eq. 136; *S. C. 24 N. J. Eq. 498*; *Blake v. Pegram*, 109 Mass. 541.]

(k) *Jones v. Foxall*, 15 Beav. 388; *Williams v. Powell*, 15 Beav. 461.

(k<sup>1</sup>) [Where an administrator employed the moneys, belonging to the intestate's estate, in trade for his own benefit, of the profits of which he refused or was unable to give any account, the court charged him with compound interest, making annual rests in the accounts, for that purpose, after allowing a reasonable time for settling the estate. In making the yearly rests, the administrator was charged with compound interest, commencing from the 16th of July, 1805, on the balance then remaining in hand, i. e. one year's interest was calculated on such balance, and added to the principal due on the 16th of July, 1806, and both made principal, upon

which aggregate sum interest was again calculated for another year, to the 16th of July, 1807, and added to the balance of principal due on that alone, and so on, for each year, during the whole term. *Schiefelin v. Stewart*, 1 John Ch. 620; *Garniss v. Gardiner*, 1 Edw. Ch. 128; *Vanderheyden v. Vanderheyden*, 2 Paige, 287; *Ackerman v. Emott*, 4 Barb. 626; *Utica Ins. Co. v. Lynch*, 11 Paige, 520; *Latimer v. Hanson*, 1 Bland, 51; *Diffenderffer v. Winder*, 8 Gill & J. 341; *McKnight v. Walsh*, 24 N. J. Eq. 498; *Wright v. Wright*, 2 McCord Ch. 185; *Robbins v. Hayward*, 1 Pick. 528, note; *Hodge v. Hawkins*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 566; *Swindall v. Swindall*, 8 Ired. Eq. 286; *Greening v. Fox*, 12 B. Mon. 190; *Blake v. Pegram*, 109 Mass. 541; *Karr v. Karr*, 6 Dana, 3, where biennial rests were thought proper; *Clemens v. Caldwell*, 7 B. Mon. 171; *Luken's Appeal*, 7 Watts & S. 48; *Fall v. Simmons*, 6 Geo. 272; *Kenan v. Hall*, 8 Geo. 417, where, under the circumstances, interest was charged annually, and compounded every six years. In *Spear v. Pinkham*, 2 Barb. Ch. 213, Chancellor Walworth said: "Where an executor mixes up the trust funds with his own, or neglects to keep regular accounts of the investments and interest received upon such funds from time to time, there is no other way in which justice can be done to the *cestuis que trust*, than to charge him with interest as if the fund had been kept invested upon interest, payable pe-

[1851]

His honor, however, observed, that the principle on which executors have been charged with compound interest has not been clearly defined, nor are the decided cases by any means free from obscurity or contradiction. The principle of some of them seems to have been, that the court ought to visit the executor as it were with a penalty, when he has not merely misconducted himself, but has derived, or tried to derive, a profit for himself from the use of the money. And it has not unfrequently been said, that in order to make out a claim for compound interest, a very strong case of violation of duty is required. (*l*) But there has already been occasion to mention that, in the latest case on this subject, (*m*) Lord Cranworth repudiated the doctrine of *punishing* the executor, (*m*<sup>1</sup>) and maintained the principle, with respect to compound as well as simple interest, that the court ought to charge him only with the interest which he has received, or which the court is justly entitled

to, and as if the payments had been made by him from the interest and principal thus received and in hand when the several payments from the trust fund were made by him. See *Garniss v. Gardiner*, 1 Edw. Ch. 128; *Blake v. Pegram*, 109 Mass. 541; *Hook v. Payne*, 14 Wallace, 252. And so an executor, who refuses to render an account of the use which he has made of the money in his hands, but claims it as his own, who has been in the habit of receiving compound interest, and who repels in an unsatisfactory manner, the imputation of fraud or gross negligence, is chargeable with compound interest, with annual rests, from the time when he ought to have settled his administration account. *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77, 104, 105. Annual rests were allowed in *Harland's Accounts*, 5 Rawle, 329. But under Penn. act of March 29th, 1832, § 7, compound interest cannot be charged to an executor, administrator, or guardian. *Norris's Appeal*, 71 Penn. St. 106, 123, 124. See *Dieterich v. Heft*, 5 Penn. St. 91; *McCall's Estate*, 1 Ashm. 357; *Light's Appeal*, 48 Penn. St. 180; *Pennypacker's Appeal*, 41 Penn. St. 44; *Hughes's Appeal*, 53 Penn. St. 500; *Granes's Appeal*, 50 Penn. St. 189. But he may be charged as profits with more than compound inter-

est when he has used the money, and be punished by disallowing commissions, &c. *Norris's Appeal*, 71 Penn. St. 106. See, further, *Ker v. Snead*, 11 Law Rep. (Boston), 217, in which this subject of compound interest was very learnedly discussed in the circuit superior court of Accomac County, Virginia.]

(*l*) See *Crackelt v. Bethune*, 1 Jac. & W. 586; *Tebbs v. Carpenter*, 1 Madd. 290. [To justify the allowance of compound interest, there must be some special and peculiar circumstances, involving a breach of duty, beyond mere neglect. *Ackerman v. Emott*, 4 Barb. 626; *Fay v. Howe*, 1 Pick. 527, 528, and note (*l*); *Garniss v. Gardiner*, 1 Edw. Ch. 128; *Fall v. Simmons*, 6 Geo. 272; *Kenan v. Hall*, 8 Geo. 417; *Cartledge v. Cutliff*, 21 Geo. 1; *Clemens v. Caldwell*, 7 B. Mon. 171; *Grier J. in Barney v. Saunders*, 16 How. (U. S.) 542, 543. A case of gross delinquency or of known violation of duty must be shown. *Boynnton v. Dyer*, 18 Pick. 1; *De Peyster v. Clarkson*, 2 Wend. 77; *Ackerman v. Emott*, 4 Barb. 626; *Lansing v. Lansing*, 45 Barb. 182; *McKnight v. Walsh*, 24 N. J. Eq. 498.]

(*m*) Atty. Gen. v. Alford, *ante*, 1749.

(*m*<sup>1</sup>) [See the remarks of Mr. Justice Grier in *Barney v. Saunders*, 16 How. (U. S.) 542.]

to say he ought to have received, or to presume he did receive. (*m*<sup>2</sup>)

\* It may here be observed, that a considerable difference of opinion has existed as to the effect of a direction to the master "to make annual rests" in taking the account. In *Heighington v. Grant*, (*n*) Lord Langdale M. R., after reviewing all the authorities, denied that a direction to ascertain balances, to compute interest on such balances, and "in taking the said accounts" to make annual rests, followed by a direction that the party shall be charged with interest, "after the rate and in the manner aforesaid upon such balances," could, without more, be considered as a direction to charge the defendant with compound interest, as so much principal received into the account of the following year. And his lordship expressed his opinion that where compound interest is intended to be charged, a specific direction for that purpose should be given. But on appeal to Lord Cottenham C. his lordship, in an elaborate judgment, arrived at a different construction of the direction in question, and held that, under it, the interest computed on the balance due at the end of the first year was to form part of the balance due at the end of the second year, and upon which interest was then to be computed, and so on from year to year to the end of the account. (*o*)

An executor or administrator is entitled to be allowed all reasonable expenses which have been incurred in the conduct of his office, (*p*) except those which arise from his

Allow-  
ances to  
executor:

(*m*<sup>2</sup>) [See *Manning v. Manning*, 1 John. Ch. 527; *Prescott's Estate*, 1 Tuck. N. Y. Sur. 430; *Hood's Estate*, 1 Tuck. N. Y. Sur. 396; *McKnight v. Walsh*, 24 N. J. Eq. 498; *Light's Appeal*, 24 Penn. St. 181; *English v. Harvey*, 2 Rawle, 305. In *Utica Ins. Co. v. Lynch*, 11 Paige, 524, it was said that the principal was to allow the *cestui que trust* to elect between simple interest and the profits, and that rests or compound interest was only a convenient mode adopted by the court to charge the trustee with the profits supposed to have been made by him in the use of the money.]

(*n*) 5 My. & Cr. 258.

(*o*) 5 My. & Cr. 258; [*ante*, 1851, note (*k*<sup>1</sup>); *Schieffelin v. Stewart*, 1 John. Ch. 620.]

(*p*) *Potts v. Leighton*, 15 Ves. 277; *Hyde v. Haywood*, 2 Atk. 126; stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, *ante*, 1828. In these should be included the expenses of keeping up the testator's domestic establishment for a reasonable time after his death. *Field v. Peckett*, 29 Beav. 576. [Executors and administrators are entitled to be allowed, in settling their accounts, all reasonable charges and disbursements for the benefit of the estate they represent, and a reasonable recompense for their personal trouble in settling the estate, in preference to the claim of any creditor to the estate. *Nimms v. Commonwealth*, 4 Hen. & Munf. 57; *Edelen v. Edelen*, 11 Md. 415; *Clarke v. Blount*, 2 Dev. Eq. 51; *Whitted v. Webb*, 2 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 442; *Pearson v. Dar-*

[1852]

own default. (q) But it is a general principle, that an executor or administrator shall have no allowance, at law or in equity, for personal trouble and loss of time in the execution of his \* duties. (r) Nor is the case altered by the ex-

for his ex-  
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ington, 32 Ala. 227; *Re Wilson*, 2 Penn. St. 325; *Glover v. Halley*, 2 Bradf. Sur. 291; *Williamson v. Williamson*, 6 Paige, 298. He is entitled to all the allowances which are made in favor of agents generally. *Henderson v. Simmons*, 38 Ala. 291. As to allowance for funeral expenses, gravestones, monuments, &c. see *ante*, 968 *et seq.* and notes. An administrator will not be allowed, on the settlement of his account, for money paid out for car or coach fare for himself and wife, or for a sister and her husband, to attend the funeral of a brother, nor will the administrator be allowed pay for his time or services in attending such funeral. *Lund v. Lund*, 41 N. H. 355, 361, 362. The impropriety of a claim for an allowance of such items in that case is very forcibly stated by Sargent J. in the above case. But extraordinary cases may occur, in which an allowance may properly be made to an administrator for travelling expenses in accompanying the conveyance of the body of the deceased from a distant city, where he had suddenly died, to the place where he had previously resided, and so for the expense of a special messenger to communicate intelligence of the death of the deceased to his family; and also for other necessary charges attending his interment. *Mann v. Lawrence*, 3 Bradf. Sur. 424; *Malony's Appeal*, 11 Serg. & R. 204; *Wall's Appeal*, 38 Penn. St. 464.]

(q) *Pannell v. Fenn*, Cro. Eliz. 348; [*Brackett v. Tillotson*, 4 N. H. 208; *Robbins v. Wolcott*, 27 Conn. 234; *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77.] He shall not be allowed the costs of an action against him as executor, which he ought never to have defended. *Chambers v. Smith*, 2 Coll. 742; *Smith v. Chambers*, 2 Phil. C. C. 221.

(r) *Robinson v. Pett*, 3 P. Wms. 251;

*Scattergood v. Harrison*, Mosely, 130; *Brocksope v. Barnes*, 5 Madd. 90. [Allowance was made to executors for trouble and loss of time in managing the testator's leasehold property and carrying on his business, in *Forster v. Ridley*, 4 De G., J. & Sm. 452. It is remarked by Mr. Justice Story that "the duties and responsibilities of the office of a trustee are sufficiently onerous and perplexing in themselves; and mistakes, even of the most innocent nature, are sometimes visited with severe consequences, nor can any one reasonably expect any trustee to devote his time or services to a very watchful care of the interests of others, when there is no remuneration for his services, and there must often be a positive loss to himself, in withdrawing from his own concerns some of his own valuable time. To say that no one is obliged to take upon himself the duty of a trustee, is to evade and not to answer the objection. The policy of the law ought to be such as to induce honorable men, without a sacrifice of their private interest, to accept the office, and to take away the temptation to abuse the trust for mere selfish purposes, as the only indemnity for services of an important and anxious nature. The very circumstance that trustees now often stipulate for a compensation before accepting the office, and that courts of equity now sanction such an allowance, is a distinct proof that the rule does not work well, and is felt to be inconvenient or unreasonable in practice." 2 Story Eq. Jur. § 1268, note. Such seems to be the view generally taken throughout the American States; and though, at an early period, some of the states, such as New York and Delaware, recognized the English rule, yet in them, as in New York, its judicial adoption called forth almost immediate legislative interference; while in others, the allow-

ecutor's renunciation of the executorship, and his afterwards assisting in it; nor although it should appear that he has deserved more,

ance of a compensation to all acting in a fiduciary capacity, either formed a part of their local common law, or proceeded from an equitable construction of some statute, and trustees, executors, and administrators are now entitled to compensation for their time and trouble, either in the form of a commission upon the property under their care, or of a gross sum allowed to them as compensation for their services. *Barney v. Saunders*, 16 How. (U. S.) 542; *Shirley v. Shattuck*, 6 Cush. (Mass.) 26; *Clark v. Platt*, 30 Conn. 282. "The general principle," it is remarked by Mr. Perry (Trusts, vol. ii. § 918), "prevails in all the states except Delaware, and, perhaps, Ohio and Illinois, that trustees are to have a reasonable compensation for their time, trouble, and skill in managing the fund and in executing the trust, although there is some diversity in the manner of determining the amount. In the larger number of states the compensation is determined by a percentage or commission upon the trust fund, and this commission varies somewhat in the different states. In some states a gross sum is allowed for time and trouble, and in others a per diem compensation is made for time, travel, and labor. In many states the percentage or commission is established by statutes; in others, the rates are adjusted upon equitable principles. These statutes generally refer to the fees or compensation of executors, administrators, and guardians; but the courts, by equitable construction, have extended their provisions to trustees and others performing fiduciary duties. But if it appears, from the instrument of trust or otherwise, that it was the intention that no compensation should be made; none will be allowed." See *Northern Central R. R. Co. v. Keighton*, 29 Md. 572; *Mason v. Roosevelt*, 5 John. Ch. 534. Where the amount of compensation is fixed in the instrument of trust, that will govern. *College of Charleston v. Wellington*, 13 Rich. Eq. 195. So far as this subject is regulated

by legislation the reader is referred to the statutes of the states which thus regulate it. These have been carefully and industriously collected and cited by Mr. Perry, in his notes to the statement of the law above quoted, from his work on Trusts. In the same notes he has very extensively referred to the cases in the several states, showing the rules adopted in each state, or the construction given to their statutes, upon the subject of compensation to trustees, executors, and administrators; to these notes the reader is referred. In several of the states the amount of compensation appears to be very much within the discretion of the court. In Massachusetts executors and administrators are allowed their reasonable expenses, incurred in the execution of their respective trusts, and such compensation for their services as the court in which their accounts are settled considers just and reasonable. *Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 98, § 10*; *Longley v. Hall*, 11 Pick. 120, 124; *Rathbun v. Cotton*, 15 Pick. 471. So, in New Hampshire, the compensation of executors and administrators for their services, and other allowances, are within the discretion of the court. *Wendell v. French*, 19 N. H. 205, 210; *Tuttle v. Robinson*, 33 N. H. 104, 118. So in Connecticut. See *Cantfield v. Bostwick*, 21 Conn. 555; *Kendall v. New England Carpet Co.* 13 Conn. 392; *Clark v. Platt*, 30 Conn. 282. So in Pennsylvania. *Wilson v. Wilson*, 3 Binn. 560; *Pusey v. Clemson*, 9 Serg. & R. 209; *Walker's Estate*, 9 Serg. & R. 225; *Marsteller's Appeal*, 4 Watts, 268; *Harland's Accounts*, 5 Rawle, 331; *Shunk's Appeal*, 2 Penn. St. 307; *Stephenson's Estate*, 4 Whart. 104; *Nathans v. Morris*, 4 Whart. 389; *Prevost v. Gratz*, 3 Wash. C. C. 434. So in Alabama; *Harris v. Martin*, 9 Ala. 899; *Gould v. Hayes*, 25 Ala. 432; and in Kentucky; *Ramsey v. Ramsey*, 4 Monr. 151; *Phillips v. Bustard*, 1 B. Mon. 350; *Greening v. Fox*, 12 B. Mon. 190; *Lane v. Coleman*, 8 B. Mon. 571; *Wood v. Lee*,



and has benefited the estate to the prejudice of his own affairs. (s) And even where an executor in trust, who had no legacy, in a case in which the execution of the office was likely to be attended with trouble, at first declined, but afterwards agreed with the re-

5 Monr. 50. Where a trust held by an executor is inseparable from the executorship, he is not entitled to double commissions, first in his character of executor, and again in his character of trustee. *Valentine v. Valentine*, 2 Barb. Ch. 430; *Aston's Estate*, 4 Whart. 241; *Stephenson's Estate*, 1 Parsons Eq. 19; *Holly v. Sur. Gen.* 4 Edw. Ch. 284; *Miller v. Congdon*, 14 Gray, 114, 118. See *Jones's case*, 4 Sandf. Ch. 616; *Kellogg's case*, 7 Paige, 267; *White v. Bullock*, 20 Barb. 99; *Blake v. Pegram*, 101 Mass. 592. Unfaithful administration will not deprive an executor or administrator of a right to compensation for his services so far as they have been beneficial to the persons interested in the testator's estate. *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77, 112; *Stevenson's Estate*, 4 Whart. 98; *Glover v. Holly*, 2 Bradf. Sur. 291; *Peyton v. Smith*, 2 Dev. & Bat. 325; *Thompson v. McDonald*, 2 Dev. & Bat. 471. See *Tiner v. Christian*, 27 Ark. 306. But it is otherwise where his wilful default or gross negligence has occasioned loss to the estate. *Gould v. Hayes*, 19 Ala. 438; *Hall v. Wilson*, 14 Ala. 295; *Blake v. Pegram*, 109 Mass. 541, 557. But in some cases it has been held that compensation being a matter of discretion it may be refused for misconduct. *Powell v. Powell*, 10 Ala. 914; *Gould v. Hayes*, 25 Ala. 432; *Doneldson v. Pusey*, 13 Ala. 752; *O'Neill v. Donnell*, 9 Ala. 738; *Hall v. Wilson*, 14 Ala. 295; *Walker v. Walker*, 9 Wallace, 743; *Hermstead's Estate*, 60 Penn. St. 423; *Norris's Appeal*, 71 Penn. St. 106, 126; *Robinett's Appeal*, 38 Penn. St. 112; *Berryhitt's Appeal*, 35 Penn. St. 245; *Aston's Estate*, 4 Whart. 240; *McCahan's Appeal*, 7 Penn. St. 59; *Stehman's Appeal*, 5 Penn. St. 414. Where no account has ever been reported by the trustee for allowance, and where the trust funds have been retained in his hands, without distinct and separate

investment, no commission will be allowed to the trustee, in New Jersey. *McKnight v. Walsh*, 24 N. J. Eq. 498, 506, 507; *Jackson v. Jackson*, 2 Green Ch. 113; *Frey v. Frey*, 2 C. E. Green, 71; *Warbass v. Armstrong*, 2 Stockt. 263. The rule was thus stated in *Holman's Appeal*, 24 Penn. St. 174: "It is hardly necessary to say that where there is no evidence of a proper attention to the duties of the trust, where no account has been settled for thirty years, and then only where a settlement was compelled by law, and where a very unfair exhibit was made when the account was presented, no compensation ought to be allowed to the executor." See *Witman & Geisinger's Appeal*, 28 Penn. St. 376; *Stearley's Appeal*, 38 Penn. St. 525; *Smith's Appeal*, 47 Penn. St. 424; *Swartswalter's Account*, 4 Watts, 77; *Dyott's Estate*, 2 Watts & S. 557; *Robinett's Appeal*, 36 Penn. St. 191. So in *Blake v. Pegram*, 109 Mass. 541, it was held that a guardian, who for many years has had a large surplus of his ward's money in his hands, and in his account has charged himself therewith, and with interest thereon, but refuses to disclose what use he has made of it, will be allowed no commission on his ward's income received by him. But compensation will not be refused for a mere mistake in judgment. *Meyer's Appeal*, 62 Penn. St. 109. The compensation is the same though there be several executors; if their trouble and services are unequal, their shares of the compensation will be proportionate. *Walker's Estate*, 9 Serg. & R. 223; *Hodge v. Hawkins*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 564; *Stevenson's Estate*, 1 Parsons Eq. 19; *Grant v. Pride*, 1 Dev. Ch. 269; *Waddill v. Martin*, 3 Ired. Eq. 562. An executor *de son tort* will not be allowed commissions. *Hagler v. McCombs*, 66 N. Car. 345.]

(s) *Robinson v. Pett*, 3 P. Wms. 249.

siduary legatee, in consideration of a hundred guineas, to act in the executorship, and on his dying before the execution of the trust was completed, his executors filed a bill to be allowed that sum out of the trust money in their hands; the court refused the claim, observing, that independently of the executor's having died before the trust was executed, such bargains ought to be discouraged, as tending to dissipate the property. (t) So a surviving partner, being executor, is not entitled, without expressed stipulation, to any allowance for carrying on the trade after the testator's death. (u) Again, in *New v. Jones*, (x) it was held by Lord Lyndhurst C. B. that if a solicitor or attorney, who is an executor, does professional business himself for the benefit of the estate, he is not entitled to be paid his \* bill of costs for such services; it would be placing his interest at variance with the duties he has to discharge. (y) Accordingly, in *Moore v. Frowd*, (z) Lord Cottenham held that a trustee, who is a solicitor, is entitled to be repaid such costs, charges, and expenses only as he has properly paid out of his pocket; and that it makes no difference in this respect, that the instrument creating the trust may have directed that the trust moneys should be applied (*inter alia*) in payment of all expenses, disbursements, and charges to be incurred, sustained, or borne by the trustee, in professional business, journeys, or otherwise, and that the trustee might retain all reasonable costs, charges, and expenses which he might sustain, or be put unto, such costs, charges, and expenses to be reckoned, stated, and paid as between attorney

(t) *Gould v. Fleetwood*, 3 P. Wms. 251, note (A). So in *Ayliffe v. Murray*, Atk. 58, two persons, executors and trustees under a will, would not prove the will nor suffer the *cestui que trust* to take out letters of administration *cum testamento annexo*, till he had executed a deed, by which he was to pay a hundred pounds to one executor and two hundred pounds to the other, within six months after they should have exhibited an inventory. Lord Harwicke declared the deed was unduly obtained, and decreed that no allowance should be made for the sum of 100*l.* and 200*l.* to the plaintiffs.

(u) *Burden v. Burden*, 1 Ves. & B. 170; *Stocken v. Dawson*, 6 Beav. 371. Nor is an executor and legatee of such surviving partner. 6 Beav. 371.

(x) Exchequer, August 9, 1833. The writer is indebted to the kindness of Mr. Younge, for the note of this decision, which is inserted in 9 Bythewood's Convey. 337, 338. It is also reported in a note to *Cradock v. Piper*, 1 Mac. & G. 668.

(y) See, also, *Wilson v. Carmichael*, 2 Dow & Cl. 51; 1 Mac. & G. 678, 679; *Nicholson v. Tutin*, 3 Kay & J. 159; [*Munn's Estate*, 1 Tuck. N. Y. Sur. 136; *Collier v. Munn*, 41 N. Y. 143. But see *Wendell v. French*, 19 N. H. 205; *Wells J. in Blake v. Pegram*, 109 Mass. 541, 553, 554; *Fulton v. Davidson*, 3 Heisk. (Tenn.) 614; *post*, 1861; *Morgan v. Nelson*, 43 Ala. 586.]

(z) 3 My. & Cr. 45.

and client. Again, in *Collins v. Carey*, (a) where business relating to a trust estate had been transacted by two solicitors in partnership, one of whom was a trustee of the estate, Lord Langdale M. R. held, that, in passing the accounts of the trustee, costs out of pocket alone could be allowed. (b) And the general rule that a trustee acting as solicitor in the trust matters is merely entitled to costs out of pocket has been firmly established by several subsequent decisions. (c) And \* the rule is not restricted to cases of express trust, but applies to the case of an executor or trustee, though there be no express trust. (d) But the rule does not apply to the costs incurred *in a suit* where the solicitor acts in the suit for himself and his co-trustees. In such a case he shall be allowed the full costs which would be properly chargeable by a stranger to the trust, taking care that they are not to be increased by his being one of the parties. (e) This exception, however, in favor of the solicitor, does not extend to a case where a solicitor, who is a trustee, acts in a suit for himself alone, or by his partner for himself alone, (f) nor to a case of a solicitor, being a trustee and acting as solicitor for himself and his co-trustees in the administration of the trust *out of court*. (g) And where an executor and

(a) 2 Beav. 128.

(b) And the rule is the same, though the business is done by one of the partners who is not trustee. *Christophers v. White*, 10 Beav. 529.

(c) *Fraser v. Palmer*, 4 Y. & Coll. 515, *coram Alderson B.*; 1 Mac. & G. 679; *In re Sherwood*, 3 Beav. 338; *Bainbrigge v. Blair*, 8 Beav. 558; *Todd v. Wilson*, 9 Beav. 486. The costs in such cases, of a defendant, are ordered to be taxed as between solicitor and client, without any special directions. *York v. Brown*, 1 Coll. 260. And under such an order, or under an order to tax costs generally, the taxing masters may take notice that the solicitor is also a trustee, and apply the rule. *Cradock v. Piper*, 1 Mac. & G. 664. But the rule does not preclude an executor who acts as solicitor in a cause in which he is a party in his representative character, from being allowed, as against the estate, that proportion of the whole costs which his town agent in the cause was entitled to receive. *Burge v. Brutton*, 2 Hare,

373. See *In re Taylor*, 18 Beav. 165.

And it must be observed that the rule does not disentitle a solicitor, who is a trustee, from claiming his professional charges under a special contract, nor, it should seem, under a will authorizing him expressly to make such charges. 3 Beav. 341; 10 Beav. 524, by Lord Langdale. See, also, 5 De G., M. & G. 166, by Lord Cranworth; *Harbin v. Derby*, 28 Beav. 325, *post*, 1861. Compensation may, in special cases, be made, under the authority of the court, to a trustee acting as solicitor in the trust matters; though not by allowing him to make the usual professional charges. *Bainbrigge v. Blair*, 8 Beav. 588. [See cases in note (y), *supra*.]

(d) *Pollard v. Doyle*, 1 Drew. & Sm. 319.

(e) *Cradock v. Piper*, 17 Sim. 41; 1 Mac. & G. 664. See, also, the observations of Lord Cranworth on this case in *Broughton v. Broughton*, 5 De G., M. & G. 164, 165.

(f) *Lyon v. Baker*, 5 De G. & Sm. 622.

(g) *Lincoln v. Windsor*, 9 Hare, 158.

trustee under a will employs his co-trustee, who is a solicitor, to transact the legal business of the trust, the solicitor is only entitled to costs out of pocket. (*h*)

Again, an agent, who is appointed executor of his principal, is not entitled to charge commission on business done subsequently to the testator's death. (*i*) So an executor, who is one of a banking firm, cannot charge the ordinary \*banker's commission against the testator's estate. (*k*) So an executor, who acts as auctioneer in the sale of assets, is not entitled to charge commission. (*l*) But where a testator, a victualler, directed his trade to be carried on by his executors, brewers and spirit merchants, who had been in the habit of serving him in his lifetime, and supplies were furnished for that purpose by them, the court would not declare that the executors were entitled to receive the cost price only for these supplies, but directed an inquiry whether the supplies were proper, and furnished at the ordinary market price. (*m*) So in *Willis v. Kimble*, (*n*) a testator devised and bequeathed his freehold and leasehold estate to trustees for sale, and he declared that his trustees respectively should be entitled to have and receive out of the trust moneys, all costs, charges, and expenses, fees to counsel and for advice, and for professional assistance, and loss of time, paid, incurred, sustained, or occasioned in or about the execution of the said trusts, or in anywise relating thereto. One of the trustees was a land surveyor, and he superintended the management and sale of the estates. And Lord Langdale M. R. held that he was entitled, upon the terms of the will, to a compensation for loss of time. Again, it is competent for the court to appoint an executor and trustee consignee with the usual profits. (*o*) And when the court in its discretion has made such an appointment, and the appointment has been acted upon, the court will not afterwards withdraw its sanction from it. (*p*)

It has been holden that agents, being also appointed execu-

(*h*) *Broughton v. Broughton*, 5 De G., partnership make a charge. *Matthison v. M. & G.* 160; 2 Sm. & G. 422. *Clarke*, 3 Drew. 3.

(*i*) *Sheff v. Axe*, 4 Russ. 33.

(*m*) *Smith v. Langford*, 2 Beav. 362.

(*k*) *Heighington v. Grant*, Rolls. Hil. T. 1840; 5 My. & Cr. 258, 262.

(*n*) 1 Beav. 559.

(*l*) *Kirkman v. Booth*, 11 Beav. 273.

(*o*) *Marshall v. Holloway*, 2 Swanst.

Nor, if he is a partner with others, can the

(*p*) *Morison v. Morison*, 4 My. & Cr. 215.

tors, are not entitled to commission upon remittances from India to this country by the testator, not received \*until after his death. (q) But the courts of India, in order to induce proper persons to accept the office of executor, have adopted a rule, opposed to the principles above stated, by permitting an executor to charge a commission upon the amount of assets collected by him in India. And if assets, collected in India, come to be administered, not in India, but by the courts in England, the courts here are of necessity bound to follow that rule of policy which has been adopted in India. For if, in the event of the accounts having been passed in India, the executors would have been entitled to a commission, it would be great injustice to withhold that allowance, because the accounts happened to be passed in this country, and not in India. (r) It has, therefore, been long established, that the courts here must follow that peculiarity of the law of India, and that executors, in passing their accounts, shall, in respect of assets collected in India, be allowed the same commission here which would have been allowed them there. (s) And this claim to commission shall extend to the collection of moneys belonging to the testator which were in the hands of a commercial house in which the executor is, and the testator was, a partner. (t)

The same exception to the general rule has been established with respect to the West Indies. The principle upon which the court of chancery has gone, in this respect, appears to be this: that the commission is in the nature of a remuneration to a trustee, who, besides the usual trouble belonging to the execution of his trust, has also to undergo all the \*inconveniences arising from being in a foreign country, and conducting the business of a merchant there. And although, as it has above appeared, no commission is allowed to a trustee in this country for what he does, however laborious his duty may be, yet inasmuch as it is of great importance to get persons to assume the character of trustees in the East and West Indies, therefore, so long as they are actually in the country, there discharging the duty of trustees, the court

(q) *Hovey v. Blakeman*, 4 Ves. 596. the executor acted as factor, he should be  
However, in *Scatterwood v. Harrison*, allowed commission for it.

Mosely, 130, Lord King held that where a factor was made executor, if anything appeared to have been consigned to him by the testator in his lifetime, though it came to his hands after his death, since

(r) 2 Russ. 589, 590.

(s) *Chetham v. Audley*, 4 Ves. 72; *Mathews v. Bagshaw*, 14 Beav. 123.

(t) *Cockerell v. Barber*, 1 Sim. 23; S. C. 2 Russ. 585.

[1857] [1858]

allows the commission. (*u*) But no commission is payable where the remittant himself is actually, at the time of the remittance, in this country. (*x*) And it should seem, that, in order to entitle himself to the commission, the party must himself be actually in the colony where the remittance was made. For if by any means money, which has not been received by him upon the spot and remitted by him from the spot to this country, is remitted to this country, it appears to be the settled rule of the court of chancery that the commission shall not be allowed. (*y*) And accordingly, in a modern case, (*z*) it was held that if an executor in India collects part of the assets there, and then comes to England, and has the remainder remitted to him by his agent, he is entitled to commission on that part only which he collected in India. (*a*)

\* Where, indeed, the will gives a legacy to the executor, expressly in respect of his trouble in the execution of his duty, in India, as executor, the question no longer is what is the law of India, but what was the intention of the testator, in the expressions used by him, as applied to the law of India. And it has been holden in such case, that the terms of the will must be considered as a declaration of the intention of the testator that the executor should be excluded from the commission to which the law of India would have entitled him, and that he can claim nothing more than the legacy which the testator has expressed to be a sufficient compensation for his trouble in performing the duties of executor. (*b*) But where the legacy is not given to the executor

(*u*) 1 Moore Priv. C. C. 40.

(*x*) 4 Ves. 72; *Ib.* 596.

(*y*) *Chambers v. Goldwin*, 5 Ves. 834; *Denton v. Davy*, 1 Moore Priv. C. C. 15, 32. In this last case it was holden by the lords of the privy council that the commission of 6*l.* per cent. given by the Jamaica act, 24 Geo. 2, c. 19, to agents, trustees, guardians, executors, &c. for the management and disposal of the rents and profits of an estate, being in the nature of a remuneration for the trouble and responsibility of conducting the business of a merchant on the island, is payable only to persons actually resident on the island, and capable and willing to act in the trusts of the estate; and the commission of 5*l.* per cent. given by the same act for receiving and remitting moneys can only be

claimed where the receipts or payments are actually made on the island.

(*z*) *Campbell v. Campbell*, 13 Sim. 168.

(*a*) Where the testator died possessed of certain notes of the Bengal government, which the executors took from the treasury at Calcutta, and handed over to certain trustees, in discharge of a legacy of the testator of equal amount with the notes, it was held that the notes were assets, in respect of which Indian commission ought to be allowed. *Campbell v. Campbell*, 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 607.

(*b*) *Freeman v. Fairlie*, 3 Meriv. 24. And the executor cannot be allowed, in passing his accounts, after a series of years to renounce his legacy and charge commission. *Ib.*

in his character of executor, (c) he will be entitled to commission on all assets collected by him in India, including the assets which he retains in respect of his own legacy. (d)

Generally speaking, an executor who has proved the will, or a person taking out letters of administration, cannot retire from his duty, but must collect the estate himself. (e) However, an executor is justified in having recourse to an agent to collect the assets, in cases where a provident owner might well employ a collector; and the executor will, therefore, be allowed the expense so incurred, in his accounts. (f)

\* Accordingly, where a testator gave annuities to his executors for their trouble in the execution of his will, and died possessed of several houses, let at weekly rents, it was held that the executors were justified in paying a person to collect the rents, and did not therefore lose their annuities. (g) So, if there are assets in India, the executor shall be allowed the expense of an agent to collect them. And, therefore, the court will appoint a receiver in India of a testator's assets, on the application of an executor resident in England. (h)

So, on one occasion, (i) it was holden that, from the nature of the accounts, the executor was justified in employing an accountant, and that the expense ought to be allowed to the executor.

(c) See *ante*, 1281-1283, as to the question where a legacy is to be regarded as given to an executor in that character.

(d) *Cockerell v. Barber*, 1 Sim. 23; 2 Russ. 585.

(e) *Weiss v. Dill*, 3 My. & K. 26; [*Gwynn v. Dorsey*, 4 Gill & J. 453; *Edmonds v. Crenshaw*, 1 Harper Ch. 224.]

(f) See *Bonithon v. Hockmore*, 1 Vern. 316; *Davis v. Dendy*, 3 Madd. 170; [*McWhorter v. Benson*, *Hopkins*, 28; *Kennedy's Appeal*, 4 Penn. St. 150.] See, also, *Hopkinson v. Roe*, 1 Beav. 180, in which case Lord Langdale M. R. held that the executors, under the circumstances, were justified in appointing an agent to get in the testator's debts, and in allowing him a salary for his trouble. But the costs of transferring funds, from the name of a testator into the names of the executors, were disallowed. And his lordship held that the sum to be allowed executors for the expenses of transferring a large sum of

money into court is one guinea; and extra brokerage was, therefore, disallowed. But where an executor, upon transferring stock to a legatee, paid one sixteenth per cent. to a stock broker for identifying him (the executor) at the bank, it was held that he ought to be allowed this payment. *Jones v. Powell*, 6 Beav. 418.

(g) *Wilkinson v. Wilkinson*, 2 Sim. & Stu. 237; S. P. as to an administrator, *Trezavant v. Frazer*, Hil. Term, 1832, before Sir L. Shadwell V. C. So, even at law it should seem that an executor, under a plea of *plene administravit*, will be allowed the reasonable charges of collecting the testator's debts. *Giles v. Dyson*, 1 Stark. N. P. C. 32.

(h) *Cockburn v. Raphael*, 2 Sim. & Stu. 453. But the receiver must give sureties resident in England. *Ib.*

(i) *Henderson v. M'Iver*, 3 Madd. 275; [*Henderson v. Simmons*, 33 Ala. 291.]

Again, if an executor pays an attorney for his trouble and attendance, in the transacting and conduct of the testator's affairs, he ought to be allowed and repaid what he so pays. (*k*) But an

(*k*) *Macnamara v. Jones*, Dick. 587; [*McElhenny's Appeal*, 46 Penn. St. 347; *Wilson's Appeal*, 41 Penn. St. 94; *Tuttle v. Robinson*, 33 N. H. 104; *Wendell v. French*, 19 N. H. 205; *Brady v. Dilley*, 27 Md. 570; *Stewart v. McMinn*, 5 Watts & S. 100; *Hawley v. James*, 16 Wend. 61; *Mumper's Appeal*, 3 Watts & S. 443; *Armstrong's Estate*, 6 Watts, 237; *Scott's Estate*, 9 Watts & S. 100; *Dietrich v. Heft*, 5 Penn. St. 97; *Pusey v. Clemson*, 9 Serg. & R. 389; *Lindsay v. Howerton*, 2 Hen. & Munf. 9; *Noel v. Harvey*, 29 Miss. 72; *Brandon v. Hoggatt*, 32 Miss. 335; *Sterrett's Appeal*, 2 Penn. 419. "The general rule is, that executors, who are obliged to employ counsel in the settlement of their accounts, shall be allowed to charge to the estate the reasonable fees of counsel." *Chapman J. in Forward v. Forward*, 6 Allen, 494, 497; *Trammel v. Philleo*, 33 Texas, 395; *Wood v. Goff*, 7 Bush (Ky.), 59. The executor or administrator is personally liable for the fees of counsel so employed, in the first instance. *Mygatt v. Willcox*, 1 Lansing, 55. But see, as to allowing counsel fees where the effect is to throw the expense on those who either have no interest, or an adverse interest in the course pursued, *Brinton's Estate*, 10 Penn. St. 411; *Royer's Appeal*, 13 Penn. St. 572. Thus, an administrator, *pendente lite*, has been held not to be entitled to a credit for counsel fees, paid to sustain the validity of an instrument propounded as the will of the deceased. *Dietrich's Appeal*, 2 Watts, 332; *Koppenhafer v. Isaacs*, 7 Watts, 170; *Royer's Appeal*, 13 Penn. St. 573. An executor, when an instrument propounded as a will is decided to be invalid, has in some cases been held not entitled to charge the estate with the expense of defending its validity. *Andrews v. Andrews*, 7 Ohio St. 143; *Browne v. Vinyard*, 1 Bailey Ch. 460; *Royer's Appeal*, 13 Penn. St. 460; *Mumper's Appeal*, 3 Watts & S. 441; in this last and

the preceding case, the reasons are given. But see *ante*, 376, note (*y*) and cases. "If a person appointed by it, as executor, be named also as a legatee or devisee, then as such he may be deeply interested also in establishing it to be the last will of the deceased. But it is clear that creditors and the rest of the world have no interest whatever in the question." *Mumper's Appeal*, 3 Watts & S. 443. In *Royer's Appeal*, 13 Penn. St. 573, *Bradford v. Boudinot*, 3 Wash. C. C. 122, was overruled, and *Geddis's Appeal*, 9 Watts, 284, explained. So where there is a contest between the executor and the distributees. "Where an estate is so situated," said *Huston J.* in *Sterrett's Appeal*, 2 Penn. 426, "that legal advice is proper to direct the course of the executors, or where they bring suits to recover part of the estate, or defend suits brought against them, counsel must be employed, and where they are employed to obtain what is honestly supposed to be the rights of the estate, the estate ought to pay the reasonable counsel fees. But where executors neglect to settle and pay, and are sued by creditors or cited by heirs, and employ counsel to defend them in their iniquity, no counsel fee should come from the estate. The man who is doing wrong must himself pay the expense of that wrong." *Heister's Appeal*, 7 Penn. St. 457; *Swatzwalter's Accounts*, 4 Watts, 77; *Mumma's Accounts*, 5 Am. Law Reg. 489. If an administrator, under an honest impression that a demand made against the estate of the deceased ought not to be paid, incurs expenses in litigating it, they should be allowed in the settlement of his administration accounts. *Green v. Fagan*, 15 Ala. 335; *Harris v. Savage*, 16 Ala. 286; *Harris v. Parker*, 41 Ala. 604; *Pearson v. Darrington*, 32 Ala. 227; *Effinger v. Richards*, 35 Miss. 540; *Warden v. Burts*, 2 McCord Ch. 73; *Atcheson v. Robertson*, 5 Rich. Eq. 39; *Clapp v. Cable*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 177; *Holmes v. Holmes*, 28 Vt.



executor is not entitled to be allowed, without question, the amount of the bill of costs which he has paid, *bonâ fide*, to the solicitor to the trust; and the officer \* of the court, without regularly taxing the bill, will moderate their amount. (l) And it may here be observed, that an executor will not be allowed the charges of his solicitor for doing things which the executor ought strictly to do himself. (m) And, therefore, where a solicitor is appointed executor, and is to be at liberty to charge for his professional services, he is only entitled to charge for services strictly professional, and not for matters which an executor ought to do without the intervention of a solicitor, such as for attendances, to pay premiums on policies, attending at the bank to make transfers, attendances on proctors, auctioneers, legatees, and creditors. (n)

765; Crofton v. Isley, 6 Greenl. 48; Davis v. Rawlins, 2 Harr. (Del.) 125; Poin-dexter v. Gibson, 1 Jones Eq. 44; Sterrett's Appeal, 2 Penn. 419; Ammon's Appeal, 31 Penn. St. 311. An administrator has a right to an allowance, out of the estate, for money paid as counsel fees in establishing his controverted right to administer. Ex parte Young, 8 Gill, 285. But where a party litigates for himself, under the character of an executor or administrator, he cannot charge the estate with the fees paid to counsel; Garrett v. Garrett, 2 Strobb. Eq. 272; Anderson v. Anderson, 37 Ala. 683; nor with other costs of litigation. Wither's Appeal, 13 Penn. St. 582; Stephens's Appeal, 56 Penn. St. 409; Mims v. Mims, 39 Ala. 716; Villard v. Roberts, 1 Strobb. Eq. 393; Garrett v. Garrett, 2 Strobb. Eq. 272; Sherman v. Angel, 2 Hill Ch. 26; Brandon v. Hoggatt, 32 Miss. 335. The reasonable fees of attorneys, who were retained *bonâ fide* by a former personal representative, to protect the interests of the estate of the deceased, are, when paid by the administrator *de bonis non*, proper allowances in his favor, and being part of the expenses incident to the administration, the sum so paid cannot be abated, although the estate may be declared insolvent. Hearrin v. Savage, 16 Ala. 286; Lindsay v. Hower-ton, 2 Hen. & Munf. 9; Portes v. Cole, 11 Texas, 157; Davis v. McNeill, 1 Ired. Eq.

344. So where an executor honestly and upon reasonable grounds propounds a paper for probate as a will, and afterwards resigns without paying the expenses, his successor may pay them and be allowed therefor. This, however, only includes legal expenses and reasonable fees paid to an attorney employed by him in good faith, and not money paid by way of compromise. Henderson v. Simmons, 33 Ala. 291. An administrator will not be allowed credit for counsel fees unless he has paid them; Modawell v. Holmes, 40 Ala. 391; Bates v. Vary, 40 Ala. 421; Thacher v. Dunham, 5 Gray, 26; Succession of Holbert, 3 La. Ann. 436; nor will counsel fees be allowed for more counsel than were needed; Crowder v. Shackelford, 35 Miss. 321; nor at all, unless the services were rendered for the benefit of the estate. Brandon v. Hoggatt, 32 Miss. 335; Satter-white v. Littlefield, 13 Sm. & M. 302.] In Stackpoole v. Stackpoole, 4 Dow. P. C. 226, an administrator was not allowed to set off a charge for poundage alleged to have been paid to his agent in the administration.

(l) Johnson v. Telford, 3 Russ. 477.

(m) Harbin v. Derby, 28 Beav. 325; [Beatty v. Clark, 20 Cal. 11; Holcomb v. Holcomb, 2 Beav. 415; Fulton v. Davidson, 3 Heisk. (Tenn.) 614; ante, 1854, and cases in note (y).]

With respect to the allowance of interest to executors upon sums advanced by them for the purposes of their trust, it has been held, that if an executor borrows money, or advances it out of his own pocket, to pay the debts of his testator which carry interest, or satisfy some of his testator's creditors who are very importunate and threaten to bring actions, he is entitled not only to be paid in full in priority to the creditors, (n) but also to an allowance of interest for the money so advanced or borrowed. (o) It may be observed, that it is contrary to the course of practice to allow interest to an execu-

(n) *Spackman v. Holland*, 2 Giff. 198; [*Woods v. Ridley*, 27 Miss. 119; *Pearson v. Darrington*, 32 Ala. 227; *Sims v. Sims*, 30 Miss. 333; *Liddel v. M'Vickar*, 6 Halst. 44. In *Munroe v. Holmes*, 13 Allen, 109, 110, 111, Hoar J. said: "An original executor or administrator is not obliged to incur expenses beyond the means which are placed in his power to discharge them; and he may and usually does protect himself by not permitting the estate to become his debtor. But circumstances may exist in which it is certainly not wrong in him, although it may not be a positive duty, to make advances for the benefit of the estate which he administers; and where by his death or removal he may be unexpectedly deprived of the power to reimburse himself for these advances. Where they have been made in good faith, and for the benefit of the estate, we can have no doubt that they in some form become a charge upon the estate in the hands of the succeeding administrator; and that it is his duty to pay them as much as if they had been incurred in the course of his own administration." "It is objected by the respondent that the bar of the statute of limitations has attached to all the debts which were paid by the executor; that if he had not paid them the creditors could not sue, or require the sale of real estate to pay them. But the executor does not merely stand in the place of the creditors whose debts he has paid. There is no special statute of limitations against the allowance of an executor's account. If the payment was lawful and just when he made it, it becomes an item in his ac-

count, and as in the case of a debt due to him from his testator, is to be allowed him on settlement. Whether, after the lapse of time which bars suits against him, he shall be allowed to sell real estate to indemnify himself, depends upon the circumstances of the case." See *Wiggin v. Swett*, 6 Met. 198; *Forward v. Forward*, 6 Allen, 494, 498; *Chesson v. Chesson*, 8 Ired. Eq. 141; *Rix v. Smith*, 8 Vt. 365; *Munroe v. Holmes*, 9 Allen, 244. Where an administrator *de bonis non* pays to a former administrator a sum of money which he advanced during his administration, to satisfy a demand with which the estate was justly chargeable, he is entitled to an allowance for the sum so paid, in the settlement of his accounts. *Hearrin v. Savage*, 16 Ala. 286. It was held in *Pren-tice v. Dehon*, 10 Allen, 353, that one, who has been an executor of an estate and resigned his trust, cannot maintain a suit either at law or in equity against the administrator with the will annexed, to recover a debt due to him from the estate, but his remedy is to be found in the settlement of the accounts of administration in the probate court.]

(o) *Small v. Wing*, 5 Bro. P. C. 72, Toml. ed.; [*Mann v. Lawrence*, 3 Bradf. Sur. 224; *Hosack v. Rogers*, 9 Paige, 461; *Rix v. Smith*, 8 Vt. 365. If an executor, not having assets, advanced his own money to redeem land of the testator, mortgaged for less than its value, and to prevent a foreclosure, he is entitled to interest on the money advanced. *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77, 102. See *Liddel v. McVickar*, 6 Halst. 44; *Barrell v. Joy*, 16 Mass. 221;

tor on costs paid by him, pending a suit regarding the estate. (*p*) Where interest is allowed on sums carrying interest, it should be calculated from the time of a balance being struck on the general report; for until that time it cannot be ascertained that the executor had not the money in his hands. (*q*)

In *Pooley v. Ray*, (*r*) a mortgage came to an executor, who received the mortgage money and paid it away to his \* testator's creditors. Afterwards it appeared that the mortgage had been satisfied in the testator's lifetime. And Lord Cowper held that the executor must refund, (*r*<sup>1</sup>) although he had before paid the money away in debts, which he had not otherwise assets to pay, and that he must have his remedy against such creditors as by mistake he had paid. (*r*<sup>2</sup>) His lordship observed, that "though this might be a hard case, yet if the plaintiffs had a right to be paid their money, which they had overpaid on the mortgage, this right could not be overthrown by the defendant, the executor, applying the money in any manner he should think fit; any more than if an executor at law should recover a debt,

*Hayward v. Ellis*, 13 Pick. 272; *Evarts v. Nason*, 11 Vt. 122; *Callaghan v. Hall*, 1 Serg. & R. 241; *Pettingill v. Pettingill*, 60 Maine, 411, 425. But an executor who voluntarily pays debts out of his own funds, cannot claim interest on sums so paid, when he has assets in his hands at the time sufficient to pay them, which he has not chosen to convert into money. *Billingslea v. Henry*, 20 Md. 282. It seems that compound interest will never be allowed in favor of executors or administrators. *Walker's Estate*, 3 Rawle, 243, 250; *Evertson v. Tappen*, 5 John. Ch. 498, 517. But see *Storer v. Storer*, 9 Mass. 37.]

(*p*) *Gordon v. Trail*, 8 Price, 416; *Lewis v. Lewis*, 13 Beav. 82.

(*q*) 8 Price, 416.

(*r*) 1 P. Wms. 355.

(*r*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Johnson v. Corbett*, 11 Paige, 265.]

(*r*<sup>2</sup>) [In *Walker v. Hill*, 17 Mass. 384, Jackson J. said: "At common law, a creditor cannot be compelled to refund the amount of a debt paid to him by an executor or administrator. The reason is that

the only ground on which the executor could demand the repayment, would have been a good defence against the original claim, and would have excused him from paying the debt. If he proceeds with common care and diligence he can never be compelled to pay more than has actually come to his hands, and if there is an actual deficiency of assets, the loss will fall on those creditors who are negligent in demanding their debts, or on those whose debts are postponed by law. The administrator, therefore, proceeding regularly and carefully, can never have occasion to call on a creditor to refund. This is the general rule. The only exception, if there is any exception, seems to be in the case where the executor has recovered money from a stranger and paid it out to creditors; and that money is afterwards recovered back from him, on a writ of error or other like process." See *Edgar v. Shields*, 1 Grant Cas. 361, 363, 364; *Carson v. M'Farland*, 2 Rawle, 218; *ante*, 989, note (*g*<sup>1</sup>), 1036, note (*h*), 1909.]

and pay the testator's debts with it, and afterwards this judgment recovered by the executor is reversed in error; the executor must restore the money to the plaintiff in error; and his having paid it away in debts of his testator will not excuse him from paying it back. So, in the same manner, if there were a decree for the executor to be paid a sum of money by the defendant, and the executor, having received the money, pays it away in debts, and then the defendant, against whom the executor had recovered the decree, brings an appeal and reverses the decree; the plaintiff in the appeal shall be restored to the money."

This doctrine of Lord Cowper was approved of by Lord Alvanley, in *Pickering v. Stamford*, (s) but his lordship remarked, that it would be otherwise if the defendant had delayed the appeal, and willingly stood by, while the executor paid away the money; for that would be drawing the executor into a snare.

It may be proper in this place to mention the case of *Brown v. Spooner*. (t) There the testator gave an annuity of 50*l.* to be purchased by his executor, and, till purchased, directed him to pay the annuitant 40*l.* a year. The executor, instead of purchasing, paid 50*l.* a year from the testator's rents. And Lord Thurlow held, that although the executor \*was bound to purchase the annuity immediately after the expiration of the first year from the testator's death, and therefore the court might charge him for the overpayment from the estate, yet the master, on a general reference of just allowances, could not do so. So in *Garland v. Littlewood*, (u) a case was alleged, on the pleading, to charge executors for what they might, but for their wilful default, &c. have received. At the hearing the common accounts only were directed against them. The case coming on for further directions on the master's report, Lord Langdale M. R. held that the executors could not be charged as for their wilful default, &c. and that no inquiry could then be directed on the subject, although the master's report laid a foundation for such an inquiry. (x)

What an executor may be charged with under a reference of just allowances.

(s) 2 Ves. jr. 583.

(t) 1 Ves. jr. 291.

(u) 1 Beav. 527.

(x) See, further, as to what may be deemed "just allowances," *Blackford v. Davis*, L. R. 4 Ch. App. 304; [*Wendell v. French*, 19 N. H. 205; *Tuttle v. Robinson*, 33 N. H. 104; *Gordon v. West*, 8 N. H.

444; *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 10 Pick. 77; *Emanuel v. Norcum*, 8 Miss. 150 (expenses incurred by an executor before he qualified); *Byrd v. Wells*, 40 Miss. 711; *Sterrett's Appeal*, 2 Penn. 419; *Hall v. Grovier*, 25 Mich. 428; *O'Neill v. Donnell*, 9 Ala. 734.]

## \* PART THE FIFTH.

### OF REMEDIES.

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## BOOK THE FIRST.

### OF REMEDIES FOR EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS.

IN a previous part of this treatise, (a) there has been occasion to investigate what rights of action are comprised in the estate of an executor or administrator. It remains to consider the remedies by which those rights may be enforced in the courts of law and equity.

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## CHAPTER THE FIRST.

### OF REMEDIES FOR EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS AT LAW.

It must be observed, in the commencement of this subject, that there are some cases where an executor or administrator, although he has an interest in a *chose in action*, is not entitled to the remedy. Thus, where one of two *joint* obligees, covenantees, or partners dies, the action on the contract must be brought in the name of the survivor, and the executor or administrator of the deceased cannot be joined, nor can he sue separately. For example, two joint merchants appoint a person to be their factor; one dies, leaving an executor; this executor and the survivor cannot join in an action against the factor; for the remedy survives, \* though not the duty; and therefore, on the recovery, the survivor must be accountable to

Instances  
where the  
executor  
has not the  
remedy.

(a) *Ante*, 800 *et seq.*

[1864] [1865]

the executor for that. (*b*) And the general rule is now settled, that though the right of a deceased partner devolves on his executor, (*c*) yet the *remedy* survives to his companion, who alone must enforce the right by action, and will be liable, on recovery, to account to the executor or administrator for the share of the deceased. (*d*)

Again, where two have the legal interest in the performance of a contract, though the benefit be only to one of them, the remedy survives upon the death of the latter, and the executor or administrator of the deceased cannot be made a party, or sue separately. Thus, in *Anderson v. Martindale*, (*e*) there was a covenant to and with A., his executors, administrators, and assigns, and to and with B. and her assigns, to pay an annuity to A., his executors, &c. during B.'s life; and it was held that this was a joint covenant to A. and B., in which they had joint legal interest, although the benefit was for A. only; and that therefore, on the death of A. the right of action survived to B., and A.'s administrators could not sue on the covenant. (*f*)

It follows that where a contract is made jointly with several persons, and they all die, the executor or administrator of the survivor alone can sue, and the personal representatives of those who died before him cannot be joined.

\* But if the interest of the covenantees be several, and one of them dies, his executor may maintain a separate action on the covenant, notwithstanding the other covenantee be living. And if the *interest* be several, it shall make no difference that the

(*b*) *Martin v. Crump*, 2 Salk. 444; S. C. 1 Ld. Raym. 340; Comb. 474.

(*c*) *Ante*, 650, 843.

(*d*) *Martin v. Crump*, 1 Ld. Raym. 340; S. C. 2 Salk. 444; Comberb. 474; *Kemp v. Andrews*, Carth. 171; S. C. 1 Show. 188; 3 Lev. 290; *Golding v. Vaughan*, 2 Chitt. Rep. 437, *per cur.*; *Rex v. Collector of Customs*, 2 M. & Sel. 225, note by Dampier J.; 2 Saund. 117, note to *Coryton v. Litheby*. It appears, therefore, that the case of *Hall v. Huffam*, 2 Lev. 118; 3 Keb. 798; 1 Freem. 468, is not law. [The surviving payee or obligee is entitled to the custody of the securities, and to collect the money on them; and the representatives of the deceased co-payee or co-obligee are not at liberty to

take half of them in amount from his possession. *Lippicott v. Stokes*, 6 N. J. Eq. 122. And the executor or administrator of a deceased partner who, in good faith, allows the surviving partner to retain possession of, and to sell the joint stock in the usual course of trade, is not responsible for loss arising therefrom; but he may become chargeable with the loss of assets put into the concern by him. *Thompson v. Brown*, 4 John. Ch. 619. See *Ely v. Horine*, 5 Dana, 398.]

(*e*) 1 East, 497.

(*f*) See *Barford v. Stuckey*, 2 Brod. & Bing. 333; S. C. 5 Moore, 23; [1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 21, and cases in notes (*c*<sup>1</sup>), (*c*<sup>2</sup>).]

language of the covenant is joint. Thus, in *Withers v. Bircham*, (g) by deed reciting the grant of two distinct annuities to A. and B. during the life of the grantors and the survivor, it was witnessed, that C. covenanted with A. and B. and their executors to pay the annuities, or either of them, when the grantors should make default in payment. A. died. And it was held that, the interest in the annuities being several, the covenant was also several, and that the annuity granted to A. being in arrear, his executor might maintain an action against C.

On the other hand, wherever the interest of the covenantees is joint, the rule of survivorship above stated will be enforced, although the covenant be in terms joint and several. (h)

The rule is the same with respect to remedies in form *ex delicto* as those in form *ex contractu*. Therefore, if one or more of several parties jointly interested in property, at the time an injury was committed, is dead, the action must be in the name of the survivor, and the executor or administrator of the deceased cannot be joined, nor can he sue separately. (i)

It was not necessary, under the statute 2 Geo. 2, c. 23, for the executor or administrator of an attorney to deliver a bill of costs, for business done by his testator or intestate, before the commencement of an action, (j) that statute being confined to actions brought by the attorney himself, and not extending to his personal representatives. But the 37th \*section of the stat. 6 & 7 Vict. c. 73, enacts, that no action shall be brought by any attorney or solicitor, or by their executors, administrators, or assignees, for the recovery of any fees, &c. until the expiration of one month after the delivery of a bill, &c.

Again, it was held that the executor of a deceased attorney or solicitor was not within the statute of Geo. 2, for any purpose; and therefore that the bill of costs delivered by the executor could not be taxed, (k) even though an action was brought upon it. (l) And further, that if the attorney or

Executor  
of attorney  
bringing  
action on  
his bill:

taxation of  
bill of de-  
ceased  
attorney.

(g) 3 B. & C. 254; S. C. 5 Dowl. & Ryl. 106.

(h) See the authorities cited in the note to *Eccleston v. Clipsham*, 1 Saund. 154. See, also, 3 B. & C. 256; and *Lane v. Drinkwater*, 1 Cr., M. & R. 599; S. C. 5 Tyrwh. 40.

(i) *Ante*, 843.

(j) *Spink v. Hare*, 1 Barnard. 343; *Wellis v. Nicholson*, Andr. 276; *Lester v. Lazarus*, 4 Dowl. 401, 402.

(k) *Maddeford v. Austwick*, 3 My. & Cr. 423; *Doe v. Sabin*, 8 Dowl. 468.

(l) *Williams v. Griffith*, 10 M. & W. 125. Where, however, the executor of the client applies, as the party chargeable by

solicitor had delivered his bill in his lifetime, and after his death it was taxed, and about a sixth part taken off, the executor was not liable to the costs of taxation. (*m*) But now by stat. 6 & 7 Vict. c. 73, s. 37, upon the application of the party chargeable with the bill delivered, the bill and the attorney's or solicitor's or *his executor's or administrator's*, or assignee's demand thereon, may be referred to be taxed; and if the bill, when taxed, be less by a sixth part than the bill delivered, then the attorney, his *executor, administrator*, or assignee, shall pay the costs. (*n*)

If there are several executors or administrators, they must all join in bringing actions, (*o*) though some be within the age of seventeen years, (*p*) or have not proved the <sup>Parties.</sup> will, (*q*) or renounced probate. (*r*) But since the court of pro-

the attorney's bill for business done for the testator, to have it referred to taxation, he is liable to the costs, if less than a sixth is taken off. *Jefferson v. Warrington*, 7 M. & W. 137.

(*m*) *Weston v. Poole*, 2 Stra. 1056; *Willasey v. Mashiter*, 3 My. & K. 293.

(*n*) If a solicitor dies pending an order for taxation, the proceedings may be revived by the client against the solicitor's representatives by an *ex parte* order; *Re Nicholson*, 29 Beav. 665; and they may, in the same way, revive the proceeding against the client. *In re Waugh*, *Ib.* 666.

(*o*) *Bro. Exors.* 88; [*Turner v. Debell*, 2 A. K. Marsh. 383; *Hill v. Smalley*, 1 Dutcher, 374; *Judson v. Gibbons*, 5 Wend. 224. What bars one will bar the other or others. *Turner v. Debell*, *supra*. If, however, only one of several executors or administrators bring an action, either in contract or in tort, it is settled that the defendant can take advantage of the non-joinder of the co-executor or co-administrator, only by pleading in abatement that the other executor or administrator, mentioned in the probate or letters of administration, is alive and not joined in the action. 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 23; *Packer v. Willson*, 15 Wend. 343; *Bodle v. Hulse*, 5 Wend. 313; *Brinckenhoff v. Wemple*, 1 Wend. 470; *Gordon v. Goodwin*, 2 Nott & McC. 70.]

(*p*) *Smith v. Smith*, Yelv. 130.

(*q*) *Brookes v. Stroud*, 1 Salk. 3; [1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 22, 23.]

(*r*) *Hensloe's case*, 9 Co. 37 *a*; S. P. by Lord Holt in *Wankford v. Wankford*, 1 Salk. 307; 1 Saund. 291 *l*, note to *Cabell v. Vaughan*; *Creswick v. Woodhead*, 4 M. & Gr. 811; S. C. 5 Scott N. R. 779; [*Bodle v. Hulse*, 5 Wend. 313; 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 22. If two out of three executors, authorized by will to sell land, enter into a contract for that purpose, the third having renounced, an action for a breach of the contract must be brought in the names of those only by whom it was made. *Heron v. Hoffner*, 3 Rawle, 393.] If an action be brought in the name of several executors, and one or more will not join with the rest in prosecuting the suit, the court will issue a summons *ad sequendum simul*, and upon their non-appearance at the return of it, will give judgment of *severance*; viz., "*Ideo consid. est quod præd. A. sequatur solus sine ipsis T. & R. versus præd. W. de placito præd.*;" so as to enable the others to proceed without them. *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 212, 14th ed. And it should seem that an executor, who has been so severed, cannot sue execution if he live to judgment. *Ib.* 225. He certainly cannot acknowledge satisfaction. *Ib.*



bate \*act (20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 79), the law in this last respect has been altered (see *ante*, 286). (*r*<sup>1</sup>)

Hence it follows that if one of two executors be joined as a plaintiff with a third party, the name of the latter cannot be struck out of the writ under the common law procedure act, and judgment given for the executor; for he could not maintain the action if he were sole plaintiff. (*s*)

But if one alone of several executors or administrators bring an action, either in form *ex contractu* or *ex delicto*, the defendant can only take advantage of it by pleading in abatement. (*t*) If the defendant pleads the general issue, or any other plea in bar, he is too late; he cannot then come at the fact of there being another executor. (*u*) It is not necessary in the plea in abatement, to aver that the executors, not joined as plaintiffs, have administered. (*v*)

It must be observed that if one executor of several alone sell goods of the testator, he alone may maintain an action for the price, not naming himself executor. (*x*) So if goods be taken out of the possession of one of several executors, he may sue alone to recover them. (*y*) And, generally, if one executor alone contracts on his own account alone, he \**must* sue alone on such contract, notwithstanding the money recovered will be assets. (*z*)

(*r*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Moore v. Willett*, 2 Hilton, 522. In North Carolina, only the executors who qualify by taking the necessary oaths are required to join in an action for a debt or demand due to their testator. *Alston v. Alston*, 3 Ired. (Law) 447.]

(*s*) *Stubs v. Stubs*, 1 H. & C. 257.

(*t*) 1 Saund. 291 *l*, note; *Tuckey v. Hawkins*, 4 C. B. 655; [*Hicks v. Branton*, 21 Ark. 186; *Macon & Co. v. Davis*, 27 Geo. 113.]

(*u*) 1 Saund. 291 *l*, note.

(*v*) See *ante*, 381, 382; Selw. N. P. 784, 6th ed., cited by Lord Tenterden, 1 Mood. & M. 363.

(*x*) *Godolph. pt. 2*, c. 16, s. 1; *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 224, 14th ed.; *Brassington v. Ault*, 2 Bing. 177; [*Aiken v. Bridgman*, 37 Vt. 249; *Laycock v. Oleson*, 60 Ill. 30.]

(*y*) *Godolph. ubi supra*; *Wentw. Off. Ex. ubi supra*.

(*z*) *Heath v. Chilton*, 12 M. & W. 632; *ante*, 381. [The rule is, that when the action is on a contract with the deceased, or for a tort to the goods before they have actually come into the executor's possession, it can be maintained by him only on the title of the deceased, and, consequently, only in a representative character; but where it is on a contract express or implied, which has sprung up, or been created since the death, or for a tort to the goods in the executor's possession, or for converting or detaining them, having escaped from his possession, or for the price of them, having been sold by him, it can be maintained by him only in his own right, and the naming himself executor will not change its nature. *Gibson C. J.* in *Kline v. Guthart*, 2 Penn. 491, 492. Such is the rule in Vermont. *Adams v. Campbell*, 4 Vt. 447.]

It is clear that two out of three co-executors may recover lands of their testator in ejectment on a joint claim. (*a*)

Though the plaintiff sues as executor or administrator, the writ of summons need not state his special character. (*b*) Process.

An executor or administrator might have arrested the defendant, in cases where a plaintiff suing in his own right might have done so. (*c*) And it has already appeared, (*d*) Arrest. that an executor might have exercised this right before probate. If the defendant was arrested by the testator, and the action abated by his death, his executors might have arrested the defendant again for the same cause of action. (*e*)

With respect to the affidavit of the cause of action, required by the statute (1 & 2 Vict. c. 110), it is not required, where the plaintiff sues as executor or administrator, that he should swear positively to the debt; it is sufficient that he, or the clerk of the testator or intestate, should swear that the defendant is indebted, &c. *as appears by books, &c. and as he verily believes*; though a mere reference to books, unsupported by the party's belief, is not sufficiently positive. (*f*) An affidavit by an executor, of a debt due to his testator, as appears by a statement made from the testator's books by an \*accountant employed to investigate the same, *as deponent verily believes*, was held to be insufficient to hold a defendant to special bail. (*g*)

In such an affidavit it is not incorrect to allege the defendant to be indebted to the plaintiff and his wife, administratrix. (*h*) If the debt was to the intestate on bond, the death of the latter

(*a*) Doe v. Wheeler, 15 M. & W. 623.

(*b*) Ashworth v. Ryal, 1 B. & Ad. 19; Halsey v. Halsey, 2 Cr. & Jerv. 330; 1 Dowl. 310. (But see Manesty v. Stevens, 9 Bing. 400.) If the process be to answer the plaintiff as executor or administrator, the declaration ought not properly to be in his own right; and this before the abolition of bailable process by statute 1 & 2 Vict. c. 110, was held a sufficient variance for discharging the defendant out of custody; Douglas v. Irlam, 8 T. R. 416; though not where the writ described the debt to be due to the plaintiff, "executor of, &c." and not "*as executor of, &c.*" Free v. White, 1 Dowl. N. S. 586.

(*c*) But now by stat. 32 & 33 Vict. c. 62 (the debtors' act, 1869), arrest and imprisonment for debt have, with some exceptions, been abolished.

(*d*) Ante, 296.

(*e*) Mellin v. Evans, 1 Cr. & Jerv. 82.

(*f*) Sheldon v. Baker, 1 T. R. 83; Roche v. Carey, 2 W. Bl. 850; Tidd, 182, 9th ed.

(*g*) Rowney v. Dean, 1 Price, 402; Tidd, 182, 9th ed.

(*h*) Coppin v. Potter, 2 Dowl. 785; S. C. *nomine* Coppin v. Coppin, 10 Bing. 441; 4 M. & Scott, 272.

need not be alleged, nor to whom the payment was to be made. (i) But if the affidavit were entitled "Between A. B. administrator, &c. plaintiff, and C. D. defendant," it would, perhaps, be held bad, as not showing in what character the plaintiff was administrator. (j)

It was decided that executors or administrators, who held a party to bail, without reasonable or probable cause, for a debt due to the deceased, were within the statute 43 Geo. 3, c. 46, s. 3. (k)

With respect to the mode of declaring by an executor or administrator, the first inquiry is, upon what causes of action he is bound to declare in his representative character. Every action brought by an executor or administrator, where the cause of action accrues in the time of the deceased, must be brought in the *detinet* only, that is, in his representative capacity. (l) But where the cause of action accrues after the death of the testator or intestate, the executor or administrator may sue as such, or not, at his option. (m) Thus, there has already been occasion to show, (n) that, in respect \* of injuries done to the goods and chattels of the testator, after his death, the executor has his option, either to sue in his representative capacity, and declare as executor or administrator, or to bring the action in his own name, and in his individual character. (n<sup>1</sup>) So it has already appeared, with respect to contracts made with the executor or administrator in that character, that the same

(i) *Ib.*

(j) *Fletcher v. Lechmere*, 5 M. & Gr. 265.

(k) *Feely v. Reed*, 5 B. & Ald. 515, (a); *Tidd*, 984, 9th ed.

(l) 1 Saund. 112, note to Dean of Bristol *v. Guyse*; Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 1; *Gallant v. Bouteflower*, 3 Dougl. 36, by Buller J.; [Gibson C. J. in *Kline v. Guthart*, 2 Penn. 491, 492; *Fesmire v. Brock*, 25 Ark. 20. And his declaration must show that he so sues. *Mohr v. Sherman*, 25 Ark. 7. Otherwise he will be presumed to sue in his individual right.]

(m) 3 Dougl. 36, by Buller J.; [*Lawson v. Lawson*, 16 Grattan, 230; *Carlisle v. Burley*, 3 Greenl. 250; *Laycock v. Olason*, 60 Ill. 30; *Gibson C. J. in Kline v. Guthart*, 2 Penn. 491, 492; *ante*, 878,

1869, note (z); *Wylly v. King*, Geo. Decis. 7; *Merritt v. Seaman*, 6 Barb. 330; *Knox v. Bigelow*, 15 Wisc. 615. Where the debt to be recovered must be assets, the executor or administrator may sue in his representative character, though upon a contract made by himself. *Boggs v. Bard*, 2 Rawle, 102.] But an action of *assumpsit* cannot be maintained by a surviving co-executor, in his own right, against the surviving partner of a deceased co-executor, without stating himself to be such surviving co-executor. *Fitzgerald v. Boehm*, 6 Moore, 332; *ante*, 912, 913.

(n) *Ante*, 876 *et seq.*

(n<sup>1</sup>) [*Manwell v. Briggs*, 17 Vt. 176; *Branch v. Branch*, 6 Florida, 314.]

option exists, wherever the money recovered will be assets. (o) In a modern case, (p) P. orally agreed to grant the defendant a lease for sixty years; the defendant paid part of the consideration, but P. died before the contract was carried into effect. The plaintiffs, P.'s executors, then granted the lease, which recited that P.'s agreement had been treated as void by the court of chancery, and that the lease was granted pursuant to a proposal of the plaintiffs, thereafter mentioned. The plaintiffs paid their own attorney his charges for drawing this lease. And the court of common pleas held that they were entitled to sue the defendant for money paid, and that in their own right.

In a declaration of assumpsit brought by an administrator *de bonis non*, the promise may be laid to have been made to the first administrator. (q)

(o) *Ante*, 878 *et seq.*, 880, note (d<sup>1</sup>). See, also, *Shipman v. Thompson*, Willes, 103; [*James v. Johnson*, 44 Ala. 629; *Evans v. Gordon*, 8 Porter (Ala.), 346; *Catlin v. Underhill*, 4 McLean, 336; *Goodman v. Walker*, 30 Ala. 482; *Gunn v. Hodge*, 32 Miss. 319; *Boggs v. Bard*, 2 Rawle, 102; *Heron v. Hoffner*, 3 Rawle, 393; *Merritt v. Seaman*, 6 Barb. 330; *Aiken v. Bridgman*, 37 Vt. 249; *Kline v. Guthart*, 2 Penn. 490; *Gayle v. Ennis*, 1 Texas, 184; *McDonald v. Williams*, 16 Ark. 36; *Haskell v. Brown*, 44 Vt. 579; *Daniel v. Hollingshead*, 16 Geo. 190; 1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 23; *Sherburne v. Goodwin*, 44 N. H. 275; *Moulton v. Wendell*, 37 N. H. 406; *Colby v. Colby*, 2 N. H. 419; *Woodman v. Barker*, 2 N. H. 479; *Flower v. Garr*, 20 Wend. 668. A judgment recovered by an administrator is a debt due to him in his personal character, upon which suit may be brought in his own name. *Adams v. Campbell*, 4 Vt. 447. And so he may sue in debt upon it, although recovered in his representative capacity in another state. *Talmage v. Chapel*, 16 Mass. 71; *Biddle v. Wilkins*, 1 Peters (U. S.), 686; *Young v. O'Neal*, 3 Sneed, 55; *Slauter v. Chenowith*, 7 Ired. 211; *ante*, 883, note (n). And the same is true of all written contracts for debts due the estate, but in the name of the executor or administrator. *Catlin v. Un-*

*derhill*, 4 McLean, 337; *Lyon v. Marshall*, 11 Barb. 241. A note payable to A. B., executor of C. D., is payable to A. B. personally, the words "executor," &c. being merely descriptive; and on the death of A. B. suit may be brought on the note by the administrator of A. B. *Cravens v. Logan*, 2 Eng. 103; *West v. Chappell*, 5 Gill, 228; *Kline v. Guthart*, *supra*. Where an executor or administrator pays a debt for which the deceased was surety, he may recover the amount from the principal in an action either in his own name or in his representative capacity. *Williams v. Moore*, 9 Pick. 432; *Mowry v. Adams*, 14 Mass. 327.] An executor may bring debt in the *debet* and *detinet*, for rent on his own lease of land, although he has the lease as executor. *Holman v. Chute*, Cro. Jac. 685; Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 1. So in debt for not setting out tithes, where he had the rectory as executor. *Bedel v. Sherman*, cited in *Reynell v. Langcastle*, Cro. Jac. 545; Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 1.

(p) *Grissell v. Robinson*, 3 Bing. N. S. 10.

(q) *Hirst v. Smith*, 7 T. R. 182; [*Sullivan v. Holker*, 15 Mass. 374; *Dikes v. Woodhouse*, 3 Rand. 287. An administrator *de bonis non* may sue in his own name as such, on a note given to his predecessor as administrator. *Barron v.*

1. It has been lately held, that in an action by an executor, as such, where the declaration states that the defendant was *indebted to the testator* in a certain sum for work, and it appears at the trial that the work was performed by the testator under an agreement, by the terms of which he was to be paid only on the completion of his work, and that it was not completed before his death, the action must fail, notwithstanding the contract was rescinded after his death by the \* consent of the plaintiff and defendant. In order to recover in such a case for the work done by the testator, the declaration, it was said, ought to have stated that the defendant was *indebted to the plaintiff*, as executor, for work done by testator. (r)

It should be observed, that if a man names himself executor or administrator, and it appears that the cause of action is in his own right, it will be no objection; for the calling himself executor is but surplusage. (s)

But it has been said that if the action be in the *debet* and *detinet*, where it should be in the *detinet* only, or *e contra*, it is substance. (t) However, it is now aided after verdict by the statute 16 & 17 Car. 2, c. 8; (u) and by the statute 5 & 6 Ann. c. 16, on a general demurrer; or after a judgment by default. (x)

The plaintiff cannot join, in the same declaration, a demand as executor or administrator, with another which accrued in his own right. (x<sup>1</sup>) And such misjoinder is a defect in

Vandvert, 13 Ala. 232; Maraman v. Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 1. But in a modern case, even a special demurrer to a declaration in debt by executors, commencing in the *debet* and *detinet*, was overruled, on the ground that this allegation might be rejected. Collett v. Collett, 3 Dowl. 211. See, also, Fergusson v. Mitchell, 4 Dowl. 513; S. C. 2 Cr., M. & R. 687.

(r) Crothwaite v. Gardner, 18 Q. B. 640. (*Semle*, that the declaration might have been amended accordingly. 18 Q. B. 647, by Erle J.)

(s) Hornsey v. Dimocke, 1 Ventr. 119; Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 1; Hargraves v. Holden, 1 Cr., M. & R. 580, note (a); [Daniels v. Richie, 7 Blackf. 391; Laycock v. Oleson, 60 Ill. 30; Allen J. in Austin v. Munro, 47 N. Y. 366, 367; Merritt v. Seamen, 2 Selden, 367. But see Hooker v. Wells, 35 Miss. 159; Burdyne v. Mackey, 7 Missou. 374.] As to rejecting the words "as executor," as surplusage, see Aspinall v. Wake, 10 Bing. 51; S. C. 3 M. & Scott, 426.

(t) Reynell v. Langcastle, Cro. Jac. 545;

(u) Coomber v. Watton, 1 Sid. 342; Frevin v. Paynton, 1 Lev. 251; Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 1.

(x) Lee v. Pilmy, 4 Ld. Raym. 1513.

(x<sup>1</sup>) [1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 226; French v. Merrill, 6 N. H. 465; Bulkley v. Andrews, 39 Conn. 523; Mason v. Norcross, Cox, 252; Epes v. Dudley, 5 Rand. 437; Grahame v. Harris, 5 Gill & J. 489; Yates v. Kimmel, 5 Missou. 87; Jefford v. Ringgold, 6 Ala. 544; Kennedy v.

substance, and therefore bad on a general demurrer, or in arrest of judgment or in error. (*y*) Thus, if an executor takes a bond from a simple contract creditor, he cannot join a count on such bond with a count on a promise made, or debt due, to the testator; because the demand on the bond must be in \*the executor's own right. (*z*) However, it is now settled, after much contrariety of cases, that if the money recovered on each of the accounts will be *assets*, the counts may be joined in the same declaration. (*a*) Therefore the same declaration which contains counts on promises to the testator may contain a count on an account stated with the plaintiff *as executor*, concerning money due to the testator from the defendant, or concerning money due to the plaintiff *as executor*, (*b*) or a count for money lent by the plaintiff *as executor*, (*c*) or a count for money had and received by the defendant to the use of the plaintiff *as executor*, (*d*) or a count for money paid by the plaintiff *as executor* to the use of the defendant, (*e*) or a count for goods sold and delivered by the plaintiff *as executor*, (*f*) or a count for materials found, and for work and labor done, by the plaintiff *as executor*, (*g*) or a count \*on a bill of exchange in-

Stallworth, 18 Ala. 368; Brown v. Webber, 5 Cush. 560; Cassels v. Vernon, 5 Mason, 332; Godbold v. Roberts, 20 Ala. 354; McDaniel v. Parks, 19 Ark. 671; Frink v. Taylor, 4 Green (Iowa), 196; Moody v. Ewing, 8 B. Mon. 521; Pugsley v. Aiken, 14 Barb. 114; Lucas v. New York & C. R. R. Co. 24 Barb. 245; Seip v. Drach, 14 Penn. St. 352; Bogle v. Kreitzer, 46 Penn. St. 465; Robbins v. Gillett, 2 Chand. Wis. 96.]

(*y*) 2 Saund. 117 *e*, note to Coryton v. Lithebye, Tidd, 12, 9th ed.

(*z*) Hosier v. Lord Arundell, 3 Bos. & Pull. 7; Partridge v. Court, 5 Price, 419, 420, 421; *ante*, 882; [Myer v. Cole, 12 John. 349; Demott v. Field, 7 Cowen, 58; Reynolds v. Reynolds, 8 Wend. 244; Gillet v. Hutchinson, 24 Wend. 184.]

(*a*) 2 Saund. 117 *g*, note to Coryton v. Lithebye; Gallant v. Boutefflower, 3 Dougl. 34; [Fry v. Evans, 8 Wend. 530; Sullivan v. Holker, 15 Mass. 374; Sebring v. Keith, 2 Bailey (S. Car.), 192.]

(*b*) Needham v. Corks, 1 Freem. 538;

Thompson v. Stent, 1 Taunt. 322; Cowell v. Watts, 6 East, 405; *ante*, 878.

(*c*) Webster v. Spencer, 3 B. & Ald. 365; Gallant v. Boutefflower, 3 Dougl. 34.

(*d*) Foxwist v. Tremaine, 2 Saund. 208; Petrie v. Hannay, 3 T. R. 659; Gallant v. Boutefflower, 3 Dougl. 34; Smith v. Barrow, 2 T. R. 477, by Ashurst J.; Webster v. Spencer, 3 B. & Ald. 364; Clark v. Hougham, 2 B. & C. 149; Dowbiggen v. Harrison, 9 B. & C. 669, by Lord Tenterden; [Patterson v. Patterson, 59 N. Y. 574, 582;] *ante*, 879.

(*e*) Ord v. Fenwick, 3 East, 103; *ante*, 879.

(*f*) Cowell v. Watts, East, 405; S. C. 2 Smith, 410; Dowbiggen v. Harrison, 9 B. & C. 669, by Lord Tenterden; *ante*, 879.

(*g*) Marshall v. Broadhurst, 1 Cr. & Jerv. 403; S. C. 1 Tyrwh. 308; Edwards v. Grace, 2 M. & W. 190; *ante*, 879. In Bolingbroke v. Kerr, L. R. 1 Ex. 222, it was held that an administrator cannot sue in his representative character on contracts made after the testator's death

[1873] [1874]

dorsed to the plaintiff *as executor*, (*h*) or on a promissory note made to him *as executor*. (*i*) So in a declaration in debt, a count on a judgment recovered by the plaintiff *as executor*, may be joined with counts on debts which accrued to the testator. (*j*)

But it must be stated in the count that the duty accrued to the plaintiff in his representative character of executor. It is not enough to say that it accrued to him, "executor," or "being executor:" it must be averred that it accrued to him "*as executor*." (*j*<sup>1</sup>) And, therefore, where a count, upon an account stated with the plaintiff *executrix* (not saying *as executrix*), was joined with a count on a promise to the testator, it was held, in error, after judgment by *nil dicit*, and a writ of inquiry and final judgment, that those two counts could not be joined. (*k*) However, in a modern case in the house of lords, (*l*) in a declaration by executors, a count stating that the defendant had accounted with the plaintiffs, "executors as aforesaid," was joined with counts stating promises to the testator. After a verdict and judgment for the

in the carrying on of the testator's business. But this decision must not be taken to interfere with the established rule, that wherever the money recovered will be assets, the executor may sue for it, and declare in his representative character. See *ante*, 881. See, also, *Abbott v. Parfitt*, L. R. 6 Q. B. 346; *Moseley v. Randell*, L. R. 6 Q. B. 336.

(*h*) *King v. Thom*, 1 T. R. 487; *Catherwood v. Chabaud*, 1 B. & C. 150; *ante*, 880. See, also, *Murray v. E. I. Company*, 5 B. & Ald. 204; *ante*, 882.

(*i*) *Partridge v. Court*, 5 Price, 412; S. C. affirmed on error, 7 Price, 591; *ante*, 880; [1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 225, 226; *Hapgood v. Houghton*, 10 Pick. 154; *Stevens v. Gregg*, 10 Serg. & R. 234; *Sebring v. Keith*, 2 Bailey, 192; *Peries v. Aycinena*, 3 Watts & S. 64; *Lowe v. Bowman*, 5 Blackf. 410; *Lea v. Hopkins*, 7 Penn. St. 385; *Boyle v. Townes*, 9 Leigh, 158; *Sullivan v. Holker*, 15 Mass. 374; *Clark v. Lamb*, 6 Pick. 512; *Fry v. Evans*, 8 Wend. 530; *Bank of Pennsylvania v. Haldiman*, 3 Penn. 161; *Hemphill v. Hamilton*, 6 Eng. 425.]

(*j*) *Crawford v. Whittall*, 1 Dougl. 4, note (1); *ante*, 878, note (*e*); [*Stevens v. Gregg*, 10 Serg. & R. 234; *Malin v. Bull*, 13 Serg. & R. 441; *Bank of Pennsylvania v. Haldiman*, 1 Penn. 161; *Lashley v. Wiley*, 8 Humph. 659; *Robbins v. Gillett*, 2 Chand. (Wis.) 96.] So an executor may in the same declaration declare for rent due in his own time, and for that which accrued in the testator's time. *Taylor v. Holmes*, 1 Freem. 367.

(*j*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Hemphill v. Hamilton*, 11 Ark. 425; *Sabin v. Hamilton*, 2 Ark. 485; *Williams v. Moore*, 32 Ala. 506; *Ikelheimer v. Chapman*, 32 Ala. 676; *Sherman v. Christian*, 6 Rand. 49; *Allen J. in Austin v. Munro*, 47 N. Y. 367.]

(*k*) *Henshall v. Roberts*, 5 East, 150; 2 Saund. 117 *h*, note; *Tidd*, 13, 9th ed.; *Webb v. Cowdell*, 14 M. & W. 820; *Davies v. Davies*, 1 H. & N. 451. And this misjoinder is not cured by the common law procedure act (1852).

(*l*) *Lancefield v. Allen*, 1 Bligh N. S. 592.

plaintiffs, a writ of error was brought upon the ground of the misjoinder. But the judgment was affirmed with costs.

It is plainly a misjoinder of plaintiffs where an executor or administrator sues on the common money counts jointly with another plaintiff, and such misjoinder is not cured by the common law procedure act (1860), s. 19. (*m*)

Misjoinder  
of plain-  
tiffs.

\* It was formerly necessary for an executor when he declared as such, to make a *profert in curia* of the letters testamentary; and for an administrator to make a *profert* of the letters of administration with a statement of the grant of the latter. (*m*<sup>1</sup>) But by the common law procedure act (1852), s. 55, "It shall not be necessary to make *profert* of any deed or other document relied on in any pleading, and if *profert* shall be made, it shall not entitle the opposite party to crave oyer, or set out upon oyer such deed or other document."

*Profert* of  
letters of  
adminis-  
tration or  
probate un-  
necessary  
since the  
common  
law proce-  
dure act:  
oyer abol-  
ished:

Before the law was thus altered, if an executor, declaring as such, made *profert* of the letters testamentary, not having, in fact, at that time obtained probate, the defendant, in order to raise the objection, must have demanded oyer; (*m*<sup>2</sup>) for if he had pleaded that the plaintiff never was nor is executor in manner and form as alleged in the declaration, the plaintiff would have succeeded on this issue, if he had obtained probate at any time before the trial; (*n*) but by demanding oyer, the defendant made it impossible for the plaintiff to proceed, till he could produce the probate.

(*m*) *Bellingham v. Clark*, 1 B. & S. 332.

(*m*<sup>1</sup>) [*Shaw C. J.* in *Rand v. Hubbard*, 4 Met. 25; *Matherson v. Grant*, 2 How. 263; *Daws v. Taylor*, 4 Jones (Law), 499; *Fugate v. Bronaugh*, 3 Cranch C. C. 65; *Carr v. Wyley*, 23 Ala. 821; *Cocke v. Walters*, 6 Ark. 404; *Lindu v. Monroe*, 33 Ill. 388; *Ligon v. Bishop*, 43 Miss. 527. *Profert* is not necessary where the cause of action accrued after the death of the testator or intestate. *Anderson v. Wilson*, 18 Ark. 409; *Caller v. Dade*, Minor (Ala.), 20; *Harbin v. Levi*, 6 Ala. 399; *Knott v. Clements*, 13 Ark. 335; *Savage v. Merriman*, 1 Blackf. 176; *Thames v. Richardson*, 3 Strobb. 484. In *Langdon v. Potter*, 11 Mass. 313, 314, Jackson J.

said: "It will be recollected, that a declaration by an administrator in our courts does not make *profert* of the letters of administration, nor set forth where, or by what authority the administration was granted." So in Rhode Island, *Elles v. Appleby*, 4 R. I. 462. As to Pennsylvania, see *Axers v. Musselman*, 2 Browne, 115; *McDonald v. Browning*, 4 Phil. (Penn.) 21. As to Georgia, see *Beale v. Hall*, 22 Geo. 431. As to Indiana, *Wyant v. Wyant*, 38 Ind. 48.]

(*m*<sup>2</sup>) [See *Cocke v. Walters*, 1 Eng. (Ark.) 404; *Collins v. Ayers*, 13 Ill. 358; *Campbell v. Baldwin*, 6 Blackf. 364.]

(*n*) *Thompson v. Reynolds*, 3 C. & P. 123. See *ante*, 304.



The alteration of the law as to *profert* and *oyer*, has rendered this course impracticable; and it may place a debtor to the deceased in a situation of some hardship and difficulty, if he is sued for the debt by one assuming to be the executor of the creditor, but who has not proved the will. For if the debtor pays the debt into court, he may be paying it to one who perhaps may never acquire a title to it by obtaining probate, and so be forced to pay it over again. On the other hand, if he pleads *ne unques executor*, and goes to trial of an issue joined on that plea, and the plaintiff has obtained probate in the mean time, it will, by relation, sustain the plaintiff's title to maintain the action, and the debtor will have to pay all the costs of the suit; though he has never disputed the debt and always been willing to pay it, if he could ascertain the person who was authorized to receive it. \* In order, therefore, to protect a defendant under such circumstances, the court, on its being shown that the plaintiff, who has declared as executor, has not obtained probate, will stay proceedings until probate shall have been taken out and a reasonable time has elapsed after it shall have been submitted to the inspection of the defendant. (o)

By stat. 2 Geo. 2, c. 22, s. 13, where either party sues or is sued  
 Pleas. as executor or administrator, where there are mutual debts  
 between the testator or intestate and either party, one  
 Set-off: debt may be set against the other. (o<sup>1</sup>) But in an action

(o) Webb v. Adkins, 14 C. B. 401.

(o<sup>1</sup>) [Jarvis v. Rogers, 15 Mass. 389, 407; Knapp v. Lee, 3 Pick. 452, 460; Boardman v. Smith, 4 Pick. 212, 215; M'Donald v. Webster, 2 Mass. 498; Richardson v. Parker, 2 Swan, 529; Bigelow v. Folger, 2 Met. 255; Granger v. Granger, 6 Ohio, 25; Ray v. Dennis, 5 Geo. 357; Peacock v. Haven, 22 Ill. 23; Smalley v. Trammel, 11 Texas, 10; Mitchell v. Rucker, 22 Texas, 66. In Mathewson v. Stratford Bank, 45 N. H. 104, it was held that a claim against the estate of a deceased person, who was indorser of a note not paid at maturity, may be set off against a claim for money had and received before his decease, though the note did not become payable, and notice of the non-payment was not given, till after the decease. In this case Bell C. J. notes a difference between the English statute and

the statutes of New Hampshire and Massachusetts: "Our statute, on this subject," he says, "is, so far as we perceive, substantially the same as the statute of Geo. 2, c. 22, except that it uses the words '*debts or demands*' instead of the single word '*debts*.' Our statute does not confine the set-off to debts, but provides that demands, that is, claims which are not debts, may be set off; and though the language has been confined in practice to demands capable of being ascertained by computation (Drew v. Towle, 27 N. H. 412), it seems to be designed to reach such a case as the present, and the construction, which finds a set-off in such case, is necessary to give reasonable effect to the statute of set-off." By the statute of Massachusetts it is provided that "in actions by executors and administrators, demands against their testators or intestates which

by an executor in his own name to recover money due to the testator in his lifetime and received by the defendant after his death,

belonged to the defendant at the time of their death, may be set off in the same manner as if the action had been brought by the deceased." Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 130, § 12. It was held in *Bigelow v. Folger*, 2 Met. 255, that a set-off was allowed, although the note proposed to be set off was not due, at the commencement of the action, but became due afterwards. Shaw C. J. in this case said: "In the present case, it is not necessary to decide that in all cases a debt not yet due may be set off in a suit brought by the administrator of an insolvent estate, though we think the authorities go to that extent. *Sewall v. Sparrow*, 16 Mass. 26." But see, as to New York, *Mercien v. Smith*, 2 Hill, 210; and as to Wisconsin, *Armstrong v. Pratt*, 2 Wis. 299; and as to Virginia, *Minor v. Minor*, 8 Grattan, 1. In *Rawson v. Copeland*, 3 Barb. Ch. 166, it was held that, in order to entitle a defendant to a set-off against an executor or administrator, it is not necessary that the defendant's debt should have been actually due or really liquidated, at the death of the testator or intestate, provided it has become due and payable at the time the suit is brought against him by the executor or administrator, so that, if the decedent had lived, and had brought the suit himself at the time, the demand would have been a proper subject of set-off. And so in a suit by the executor or administrator of an estate that is represented to be insolvent, the defendant may set-off claims against the deceased which are for sums not liquidated and which cannot be ascertained by calculation, and are therefore not the subject of set-off under the general statute of set-off, and such claims may be set off, although they have been disallowed by the commissioners appointed to examine the claims of creditors against the deceased, and the claimant has not appealed from their decision. *Phelps v. Rice*, 10 Met. 128. Hubbard J. said: "The demand sued in this case being that

of an administrator of an insolvent estate, the right of set-off is not limited to cases provided for by the statute of set-off. It extends to all cases where mutual demands exist which survive the death of the party; and a defendant, therefore, when sued, may set up in defence claims not liquidated, as well as those the amount of which is ascertained. This is the principle established in *M'Donald v. Webster*, 2 Mass. 498, and which has repeatedly received the sanction of this court. *Jarvis v. Rogers*, 15 Mass. 407; *Knapp v. Lee*, 3 Pick. 460; *Bigelow v. Folger*, 2 Met. 255." *Bordman v. Smith*, 4 Pick. 212, 215. "When an estate is represented insolvent, all mutual demands of every nature and kind are to be set off, and the balance only is the debt due from the estate, or to the estate, as it may be found. This does not stand upon the law regulating set-off generally, but on the law respecting the settlement of insolvent estates." Shaw C. J. in *Bigelow v. Folger*, 2 Met. 256. So in Maine, in *Morrison v. Jewell*, 34 Maine, 146, 147, 148, *Shepley C. J.* said: "Where one has deceased and his estate has been represented to be insolvent, all existing claims are to be set off and a final balance is to be ascertained;" although "no set-off of such claims could have been allowed, if both parties had been alive." See, also, *Medomak Bank v. Curtis*, 24 Maine, 36; *Mathewson v. Strafford Bank*, 45 N. H. 104, 110; *Aldrich v. Campbell*, 4 Gray, 284, 286. But in Pennsylvania it was held in *Boesler v. Exchange Bank*, that in suits by or against executors or administrators, when the estate is notoriously insolvent, a debt not due at the time of the death of the testator or intestate, cannot be set off, although it became due before the commencement of the suit. In an action by an executor or administrator on a demand due the estate of the deceased, the defendant cannot set-off a claim barred by the special statute of limitations in favor

the defendant cannot set-off a debt due to him from the testator. (*p*) And the same rule holds where the plaintiff declares, *as executor*, for a debt due after the death of the testator. (*q*) Again, if a stranger received rent due to the testator in his lifetime, and afterwards, by desire of the tenant in possession, pays the demand of ground rent, due at the same time, for the same premises, he may deduct such payment in an action by the executor for the

of executors and administrators. Lovell v. Nelson, 11 Allen, 101; Jones v. Jones, 21 N. H. 219, 222. See Cunningham v. Baker, 2 Nott & McC. 399; Bell v. Andrews, 34 Ala. 538.]

(*p*) Shipman v. Thompson, Willes, 103; Tegetmeyer v. Lumley, 25 Geo. 3, B. R. reported in Durnford's note to Hutchinson v. Sturges, Willes, 264; [Newhall v. Turney, 14 Ill. 338; Woodward v. McGaugh, 8 Missou. 161; Aiken v. Bridgman, 37 Vt. 249.] So it was held, by Romilly M. R., that where a creditor had purchased part of the intestate's goods from his administrator, he could not set off the price against a debt due to him from the intestate at his decease. Lambarde v. Older, 17 Beav. 542; Wrout v. Dawes, 25 Beav. 369; [Hall v. Hall, 11 Texas, 526; Steel v. Steel, 12 Penn. St. 64; Mellen v. Boarman, 13 Sm. & M. 100; Cotton v. Parker, 1 Sm. & M. Ch. 191. So in an action by an executor or administrator of an insolvent estate for a debt due to the deceased, the defendant cannot set off a debt due from the deceased, purchased by the defendant after the death. Root v. Taylor, 20 John. 137; Whitehead v. Cade, 2 Miss. 95; Dwight v. Carson, 2 La. Ann. 459; Irons v. Irons, 5 R. I. 264; Happoldt v. Jones, Harper, 109; Schmidt v. Crafts, 2 Brev. 266. See Aldrich v. Campbell, 4 Gray, 284; McGinnis v. Allen, 2 Swan, 645; Smith v. Boyer, 2 Watts, 173. Distributees cannot, generally, in a suit by an administrator, set up by way of set-off the distributive share to which, on final settlement, they may be entitled. Guthrie v. Guthrie, 17 Texas, 541. So in an action by an executor, a legacy bequeathed to the defendant cannot be set

off though the executor has assets to pay the legacy. Robinson v. Robinson, 4 Harr. 418.] As to set-off in an action brought by husband and wife in right of the wife as executrix, see Field v. Allen, 9 M. & W. 694.

(*q*) Kilvington v. Stevenson, cited by Erskine from Yates's MS. in Tegetmeyer v. Lumley, *ubi supra*; Schofield v. Corbett, 11 Q. B. 779; S. C. 6 Nev. & M. 627; Rees v. Watts, 11 Ex. 410; Watts v. Rees, 9 Ex. 696, overruling Mardell v. Thelluson, 18 Q. B. 857; [Patterson v. Patterson, 59 N. Y. 574.] See, also, 6 El. & Bl. 976; *post*, pt. v. bk. II. ch. I.; [Wolfsberger v. Bucher, 10 Serg. & R. 11; Dayhuff v. Dayhuff, 27 Ind. 158; Colby v. Colby, 2 N. H. 419; Shaw v. Gookin, 7 N. H. 16; Bizzell v. Stone, 12 Ark. 378; Cook v. Lovell, 11 Iowa, 81; Rapier v. Holland, Minor (Ala.), 176; Brown v. Garland, 1 Wash. (Va.) 217; Burton v. Chim, Hardin (Ky.), 252; Fry v. Evans, 8 Wend. 530; Mills v. Lumpkin, 1 Geo. 511; Crawford v. Beal, Dudley (Geo.), 204; Merritt v. Scaman, 6 N. Y. 168; Stuart v. Commonwealth, 8 Watts, 74. In an action by an administrator to recover a debt due to the intestate, the defendant was allowed to file in set-off a demand for money paid by him to defray the funeral expenses of the deceased, in Adams v. Butts, 16 Pick. 343. But, as a general rule, in an action by an executor or administrator the defendant cannot plead in set-off any demand against the estate which accrued to him since the death of the deceased. Atchison v. Smith, 25 Texas, 228; Minor v. Minor, 8 Grattan, 1.]

rents received ; but he cannot deduct a payment of ground rent arising after the death of the testator. (r)

In *Henderson v. Henderson*, (s) an action was brought on \* a decree on the equity side of the supreme court of Newfoundland, awarding a sum of money to be paid by the defendant to the plaintiff ; and the defendant, by his plea, after alleging that the plaintiff had sued in the supreme court, as the representative of a deceased person, proceeded to rely on a set-off for debts due from the deceased, or his estate, to the defendant. And it was held that this plea was bad ; because the plaintiff was now suing in his own right, and the defence, if available at all, was one which ought to have been made in the supreme court.

There is no right, either at law or in equity, to deduct a loss on a policy, underwritten by a testator with a broker, from the amount due to the executors for premiums from the same broker. (t)

It should seem that, under this statute, an equitable demand cannot be set off at law. In *Tucker v. Tucker*, (u) one Sarah Tucker, in the year 1791, gave a bond to William Tucker, conditioned for the payment of money. William Tucker made one Charlotte Tucker his executrix and residuary legatee. She proved the will, and assented to the bequest to herself, and died, not having fully administered, making the defendant her executrix. A sum due on this bond remained unpaid. Charlotte Tucker, in the year 1774, in consideration of a marriage about to take place between herself and the father of Sarah Tucker, had given a bond to a trustee, conditioned for payment of a sum of money to the use of Sarah Tucker, if she, Charlotte Tucker (then Charlotte Small), should marry, and survive her intended husband. She did marry, and survived him, and the money not having been paid in her lifetime, the trustee's executor sued the defendant as her executrix on that bond. And the court of king's bench held, that in this action the claim of the defendant upon Sarah Tucker's bond could not be set off.

\* Where an equitable set-off exists, the proper course is to apply to a court of equity for an injunction. (v) And although the rule

(r) *Wilkinson v. Cawood*, 3 Anstr. 905.

(s) 6 Q. B. 288.

(t) *Beckwith v. Bullen*, 8 El. & Bl. 683.

(u) 4 B. & Ad. 745 ; S. C. 1 Nev. & M.

(v) *I. e.* unless it can be pleaded by way of equitable defence under the common law procedure act, 1854, sect. 83.

is as fully established in equity as at law, that demands due in different rights cannot be set off, — the principle being, that one's money shall not be applied to pay another man's debts, — yet a court of equity will have regard to the beneficial ownership of the debts, and will give effect to the right of set-off accordingly, notwithstanding any technical difficulties as to forms of action or the like. Thus, in *Jones v. Mossop*, (x) A. was indebted on bond to B.; B. died, leaving C. his sole next of kin, who obtained letters of administration of his estate. The estate of B., after all debts, &c. were paid, left a clear residue exceeding the amount of the bond debt. A. became surety for C. by joining in promissory notes. C. became an insolvent debtor, and A. was compelled to pay the notes. C. died, and then the assignee under his insolvency took out letters of administration *de bonis non* of B., and sued A. on the bond. It was held that A. might set off the sums which he had been compelled to pay as surety for C. against the bond debt. (y)

In *Bridges v. Smyth*, (z) the court of common pleas held that a judgment for the plaintiff in that court might be set off against a judgment for the defendant in the king's bench, although the plaintiff was dead and the judgment was assets in the hands of her administrator. In that case, Mrs. Brydges had judgment against Miss Smyth in the common pleas, in two actions, to the amount of 816*l.* 15*s.*; and Mrs. Brydges dying after the judgments were entered up, Frowd, her attorney, \* who claimed to be a judgment creditor, had taken out letters of administration. Miss Smyth had a judgment in the king's bench to the amount of 3,052*l.* against Mrs. Brydges, and Frowd was requested to set off the 816*l.* 15*s.* against the 3,052*l.* This he refused to do, on the ground that, she being dead, and he being her administrator, the judgments in the common pleas were in a different right, and could not be set off, without compromising the interest of the creditors. But the court of common pleas ordered satisfaction to be entered on the judgment rolls in that court, upon acknowl-

(x) 3 Hare, 568. See, also, *Baillie v. Edwards*, 2 H. L. Cas. 74.

(y) It must not, however, be understood that the mere existence of cross-demands is sufficient to constitute an equitable set-off as contradistinguished from the set-off at law. It will be found that this equita-

ble set-off exists in cases where the party seeking the benefit of it can show some equitable grounds for being protected against his adversary's demand. *Rawson v. Samuel*, 1 Cr. & Ph. 161, 178.

(z) 8 Bing. 29.

edging satisfaction for 816*l.* 15*s.* on the judgment for 3,052*l.* in the king's bench.

In answer to a set-off, the executor or administrator may give in evidence the advance of money by him *as executor* or administrator to the defendant. (*a*)

If, in *assumpsit* by an executor, in which all the promises are laid to be made *to the testator* in his lifetime, the defendant pleads that he did not promise within six years <sup>plea of statute of limitations</sup> next before the obtaining of the original writ of the plaintiff, and the plaintiff replies that the original was sued on such a day, and that within six years before the day of obtaining thereof, that is to say, on such a day, letters testamentary were granted to him, by which the plaintiff's action accrued to him within six years; this replication is bad; because the time of limitation must be computed from the time when the action first accrued to the testator, and not from the time of proving the will; for that gave no new cause of action, and therefore the time of proving the will is perfectly immaterial. (*b*)

But where to an action by an administrator for money had and received to his use by the defendant, who had received the intestate's money *after his death*, six years and upwards before the commencement of the action, but within six years after letters of administration granted to the \*plaintiff, the defendant pleaded the statute of limitations, and the plaintiff replied the special matter above mentioned; it was held, upon demurrer, that the statute was no bar, because this was not a cause of action in the intestate, the money having been received after his death, and the plaintiff's title commenced by taking out letters of administration, before which time no cause of action accrued to him. (*c*) So where an action was brought by an administrator against the acceptors of

(*a*) *Gallant v. Bouteflower*, 3 Dougl. 34. recognized in the United States. In *New*

(*b*) *Hickman v. Walker*, Willes, 27; 2 York, *Bucklin v. Ford*, 5 Barb. 393; *Saund.* 63 *k*, note to *Hodsdon v. Harridge*; Pennsylvania, *Johnston v. Humphries*, 14 [Warren *v. Paff*, 4 Bradf. Sur. 260. See Serg. & R. 395; Maryland, *Fishwick v. Conant v. Hitt*, 12 Vt. 285; *Hagood v. Sewall*, 4 Harr. & J. 393, 428; North Carolina, *Grubb v. Clayton*, 2 Hayw. 378; Southgate, 21 Vt. 584.]

(*c*) *Cary v. Stephenson*, 2 Salk. 421; 8. Lee *v. Gause*, 2 Ired. 448; *Jones v. Brodie*, C. Carth. 335; *Skinn.* 555; 4 Mod. 372. 3 Monr. 354; South Carolina, *Gieger v. See Stanford's case*, cited Cro. Jac. 61; Brown, 4 McCord, 423; *Webb v. Elmore*, [Dunning *v. Ocean National Bank*, 6 Lansing, 296; *Fergusson v. Fyffe*, 8 Cl. & 2 Bailey, 595; Virginia, *Hansford v. Elliott*, 9 Leigh, 79.]

Fin. 121. This rule has been generally

bills of exchange payable to the intestate, and accepted after his death, but before the grant of letters of administration, it was held that the statute ran only from the grant of the letters. (*d*)

It must be observed, that where, in *assumpsit* by an executor, on a contract made with *his testator*, all the promises in the declaration are laid to be made to the testator, and the defendant pleads the statute of limitations, the plaintiff cannot in his replication set forth a promise made to *himself* within six years, without being guilty of a departure, any more than he can in such case give evidence of a promise made to himself within six years upon an issue joined on the plea of the statute of limitations. (*e*) However, in *Heylin v. Hastings*, (*f*) it is said to have been admitted, that a promise made to an executor is sufficient to prove the issue of *assumpsit* to the testator within six years; because the promise does not give any new cause of action, but only revives the old cause, and is of no other use but to prevent the bar by

(*d*) *Murray v. E. I. Company*, 5 B. & Ald. 204. See, also, *ante*, 630; *Pratt v. Swaine*, 8 B. & C. 285; S. C. 1 Mann. & Ryl. 351; *Perry v. Jenkins*, 1 My. & Cr. 118. [In Massachusetts, if a person entitled to bring or liable to any action dies before the time limited for the commencement of such action, or within thirty days after the expiration of said time, and the cause of action by law survives, the action may be commenced by or against the executor or administrator of the deceased person, at any time within two years after the grant of letters testamentary or of administration, and not afterwards if otherwise barred. Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 155, § 10. See, as to the force of the expression "otherwise barred," *Corliss Steam Engine Co. v. Schumacher*, 109 Mass. 416, 418. Under this statute it was held that an action brought by one who is appointed, in Massachusetts, administrator of the estate of an inhabitant of another state, within twenty years from the death of such inhabitant, is not barred by the statute of limitations, if it is commenced within two years after the first appointment of such administrator. *Gallup v. Gallup*, 11 Met. 445. See *M'Kinder v. Littlejohn*, 1 Ired. (Law) 66; *Brewster v. Brewster*, 52 N. H.

52; *post*, 1951, note (*p*). And so it was held that under it the *donee causa mortis* of a negotiable note not indorsed, may bring an action thereon in the name of the administrator of the donor, at any time within two years after the grant of letters of administration. *Bates v. Kempton*, 7 Gray, 382. This provision of the statute, however, does not apply to the case of a creditor of an insolvent estate, for the reason that such creditor cannot bring an action, but is only entitled to file his claim before the commissioner, within the time allowed by law. *Ostrom v. Curtis*, 1 Cush. 467. By the code of procedure, in New York, on the death of a party entitled to bring an action, where the cause of action survives, the time within which the action may be brought by his representatives is extended for the term of one year from the date of the death of the party, in addition to the time limited by the statute of limitations. Code of Pro. § 102.]

(*e*) *Hickman v. Walker, Willes*, 29; *Dean v. Crane*, 1 Salk. 28; S. C. 6 Mod. 309, 310; *Executors of the Duke of Marlborough v. Widmore*, 2 Stra. 890; 2 Saund. 63 l; [1 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 675.]

(*f*) *Carth*. 471.

the statute of limitations. But this seems not to be well founded ; and it has since been determined, that evidence of an acknowledgment by the defendant within six years of an old existing debt, of above six \* years' standing, due to the plaintiff's intestate, but which acknowledgment was made after the intestate's death, will not support a count by the administrator, laying the promise to be made to his intestate. (*g*) Therefore, where it is necessary to rely on an acknowledgment, made since the death of the testator, to bar the statute, counts must be inserted in the declaration, laying promises to the plaintiff as executor. (*h*)

Accordingly, if an executor brings an action on a bill or note, and intends to rely on an acknowledgment or promise made to himself in order to bar the statute, he must, in his declaration, state the making of the bill or note, and then proceed to aver that after the death of his testator or intestate, the defendant promised him (the plaintiff) as executor or administrator, to pay him. And where the declaration is so framed, such promise may be denied by a plea of *non-assumpsit*, notwithstanding the rule of pleading, H. T. 1852, r. 7, that in all actions upon bills of exchange and promissory notes, the plea of *non-assumpsit* shall be inadmissible. For the mere production and proof of the note would not prove the promise as made *to the executors*, as it would if the promise were laid as made *to the testators*. The right of action indeed is transferred to the executor, but no promise is implied by law to pay him ; otherwise the statute of limitations would run from the death of the payee, and not from the time of the note becoming due. In order, therefore, to support the action, there must be an express promise to the executor, that is to say, an express promise as contradistinguished from a promise contained in the note itself, or anything implied out of it ; and the cause of action is the existence of the note, *with* the express promise to the executor to pay the amount of it ; whereas the rule is confined \* to cases where the action is *only* on the note. (*i*) The effect of

(*g*) *Sarell v. Wine*, 3 East, 409 ; S. P. *Ward v. Hunter*, 6 Taunt. 210 ; S. P. by Bayley J. in *Short v. M'Carthy*, 3 B. & Ald. 631 ; [*Jones v. Moore*, 5 Binney, 573. But in New Hampshire and Massachusetts the practice has always been otherwise. See *Buswell v. Roby*, 3 N. H. 467, 468 ; *Baxter v. Penniman*, 8 Mass. 134.]

(*h*) As to what is sufficient evidence of an account stated with the plaintiff as executor, see *Purdon v. Purdon*, 10 M. & W. 562.

(*i*) *Timmis v. Platt*, 2 M. & W. 720 ; *Gilbert v. Platt*, 5 Dowl. 748 ; *Rolleston v. Dixon*, 2 Dowl. & L. 892 ; *post*, pt. v. bk. II. ch. I.



the plea of *non-assumpsit* in such a case is, to admit that the bill or note was signed by the defendant, but to deny that he made any promise to the executor.

In *Clark v. Hooper*, (j) payment of interest on a promissory note to an administrator, who had omitted to take out administration in the diocese in which the note was a *bonum notabile*, was held a sufficient acknowledgment of the debt to bar the statute.

If an executor takes out proper process in *assumpsit*, within a year after the death of his testator, the six years not being elapsed before, though they expire within that period, yet, it has been said, that will be sufficient to take the case out of the statute. (k) But the contrary was lately ruled in *Penny v. Brice*. (l)

Where a plaintiff dies, a writ by journeys accounts cannot be brought by his executor. (m) It was, indeed, ruled \*in *Estob v. Thorowgood*, (n) that a general executor might bring a writ by journeys accounts upon a writ brought by the executor *durante minore ætate*, although it was otherwise in the case of a writ brought by an administrator *durante minore ætate*. But in *Kinsey v. Heyward*, (o) Treby C. J. said, that although he concurred in that opinion on the former occasion, he was never ashamed to retract his opinion, when convinced upon better reason; and he, therefore, now declared that he thought that the executor could in neither case have the writ; because in no case can a writ of

(j) 10 Bing. 840; 4 M. & Scott, 353. [See *Baxter v. Penniman*, 8 Mass. 133; *Johnson v. Beardslee*, 15 John. 3; *Martin v. Williams*, 17 John. 330.]

(k) Tidd, 28, 9th ed., citing *Cawer v. James*, Bull. N. P. 150. But see S. C. reported in *Willes*, 255, *nomine Karver v. James*.

(l) 18 C. B. N. S. 393.

(m) *Kinsey v. Heyward*, 1 Ld. Raym. 432. If a writ abates, without the default of the plaintiff, he may have a new writ by journeys accounts, i. e. *per dietas computatas*. The word *dieta* means a day's journey; and the origin of the expression is said to be, that the court of chancery, being a movable court, and following the king's court, and the writs being to be purchased out of chancery, the party was bound to apply to the king's court as hastily as the distance of the place would

allow, accounting twenty miles for every day's journey; and, for this reason, he was to show that he had purchased it as hastily as possible, accounting the days' journeys he had to the court. 1 Ld. Raym. 433. *Termes de la Ley*, Art. *Journies Account*; Com. Dig. *Abatement*, P. There are some authorities for the proposition that the writ by journeys accounts is a continuance of the former writ. But Lord Coke calls it "*quodam modo*, a continuance." And Lord Lyndhurst C. in *Davies v. Lowndes*, 1 Phill. 328; 6 M. & Gr. 529, and the court of common pleas in a further stage of the same cause, 7 M. & Gr. 762, expressed a very strong opinion that it is not a continuance, strictly and properly, of the old writ, but is a new writ.

(n) 1 Ld. Raym. 283.

(o) 1 Ld. Raym. 433.

journeys accounts be, but by the same person, not only in representation, but strictly and truly the same person. (*p*)

However, where a party brings an action before the expiration of six years, and dies before judgment, the six years being then expired, it has been held that his executor or administrator may, within the equity of the fourth section of the statute of limitations (21 Jac. 1, c. 16), bring a new action; (*q*) provided he does it recently, or within a reasonable time. (*q*<sup>1</sup>) No precise time is fixed as to what shall be deemed a reasonable time; but it should seem that the statute is the best guide upon the subject, and as that provides that a new action, in the cases enumerated in it, must be commenced *within a year*, so an executor ought also to bring a new action within that period. (*r*) In *Kinsey v. Hay-*

(*p*) See *Spencer's case*, 6 Co. 10 *b*.

(*q*) *Matthews v. Phillips*, 2 Salk. 425; *Kinsey v. Heyward*, 1 Lutw. 260.

(*q*<sup>1</sup>) [By the English common law procedure act, 1852, §§ 135-6-7-8, an action does not abate by the death of a sole plaintiff or defendant, or of one or more of several plaintiffs or defendants; but the death being suggested upon the record, the action may proceed at the suit of the legal representatives of such sole plaintiff or by the surviving plaintiff or plaintiffs. If the above suggestion be not made the subsequent proceedings will be void. *Barnewell v. Sutherland*, 1 L., M. & P. 159; *Larchin v. Buckle*, 1 L., M. & P. 159; *Pinkus v. Sturch*, 5 C. B. 474; 2 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 15. There is a corresponding provision in the statutes of Massachusetts, where the cause of action survives. Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 127, § 5 *et seq.* See *Booth v. Northup*, 27 Conn. 325; *Tyler v. Whitney*, 8 Vt. 26; *ante*, 594, note (*n*), 891, note (*c*). A writ does not abate by the death of either party, between the time when the writ is served, and the time of entering the action, provided the cause of action by law survives. *Clindenin v. Allen*, 4 N. H. 385; Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 127, § 6. See *post*, 2012, 2013. If the defendant dies, in an action the cause of which survives, there is no statute of limitations in Massachusetts which fixes the time within which the administrator of his estate

shall be cited in to defend the same. Bank of *Brighton v. Russell*, 13 Allen, 221. See *McLellan v. Lunt*, 14 Maine, 254; *Pettengill v. Patterson*, 39 Maine, 498. Under the code of procedure, in New York, in case of the death of a party to an action, the court on motion, at any time within one year thereafter, or afterwards, on a supplemental complaint, may allow the action to be continued by or against his representative or successor in interest, if the cause of action survives. Code of Pro. § 121. See *Ridgeway v. Bulkley*, 7 How. Pr. 269; *Potter v. Van Vranken*, 36 N. Y. 619. But where a sole defendant dies pending an action, after issue joined, and before trial, there seems to be no rule in New York by which his personal representatives are entitled to an order requiring the plaintiff to continue the action against them, as the defendants. In such a case, the plaintiff, at his election, may require it to be discontinued. *Keene v. La Farge*, 1 Bosw. (N. Y.) 671; 16 How. Pr. 377. See Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 127, § 5 *et seq.*

(*r*) 2 Saund. 64 *a*, note to *Hodsden v. Harridge*; [*Martin v. Anker*, 3 Hill Ch. 211; *ante*, 1880, note (*e*); *Huntington v. Brinkerhoff*, 10 Wend. 278; *Butts v. Genung*, 5 Paige, 254. Where an action is not barred at the death of the intestate, the administrator may sue at any time within the next year, though the ordinary

ward, (e) a year is said to be a reasonable time ; and the court of king's bench appears to be of this opinion in *Wilcox v. Huggins*, (t) where it is said, that the most that had ever been allowed was a year, and that within the equity of the proviso in the statute, which gives the plaintiff a year to commence a new action, where the judgment is \*arrested or reversed ; and that they would not go a moment farther, for it would let in all the inconveniences which the statute was made to avoid. Indeed, if the executor had been retarded by suits about the will or administration, and had shown that in pleading, it would have been otherwise, because the neglect would then have been accounted for. And Lee J. said, " I think what is or is not a recent prosecution in a case of this nature, is to be determined by the discretion of the court from the circumstances of the case ; but generally the year in the statute is a good direction." However, in *Lethbridge v. Chapman*, (u) the action was allowed to be brought within fourteen months after the testator's death, though no reason was assigned for it. Upon the whole, therefore, it seems prudent for the executor to bring a new action as soon as he possibly can after the death of his testator, and at all events not to delay it beyond a year. (v) But in *Curlew v. Lord Mornington*, (x) it was expressly held, that the executor was not bound to the year, if under the circumstances he can fairly be said to have used due diligence. (x<sup>1</sup>)

The form of the replication by an executor to a plea of the statute, where he recently brings a new action after the death of a testator, is to state, that the testator on such a day sued out a writ of summons against the defendant, whereby he was commanded, &c. (and then continue the writ down to the time of the testator's death) ; that he appointed the plaintiff as executor, recently after his death, to wit, on such a day, &c. the plaintiff sued out the writ upon which the action is founded ; that the several writs so prosecuted by the testator against the defendant were with an intent to have impleaded the defendant upon the several promises in the declaration specified ; and that the writ sued out

period of limitation should expire during that year. *McNeill v. McNeill*, 35 Ala. 30. See *Manly v. Turnipseed*, 37 Ala. 522.]

(e) 1 Ld. Raym. 434.

(t) 2 Str. 207 ; Fittg. 170, 289.

(u) 15 Vin. 103, *in margine*.

(v) 2 Saund. 64 b, note.

(x) 7 El. & Bl. 283 ; S. C. in error, 27 L. J. Q. B. 439.

(x<sup>1</sup>) [Story J. in *Trecothick v. Austin*, 4 Mason, 26, 27 ; *Hunter v. Glenn*, 1 Bailey Eq. 541 ; *Parker v. Fassit*, 1 Harr. & J. 337 ; *Allen v. Rantree*, 1 Speers, 80.]

by the plaintiff against the defendant was prosecuted against him with an intent to implead him for the causes \* of action in the declaration specified, and upon his appearance to declare against him for the said several causes of action, and that he afterwards, on, &c. declared against the defendant, &c. with an averment that the several causes of action accrued within six years next before the suing out of the writ first above specified by the testator. (y)

Again, if an executor bring *assumpsit*, but die before judgment, and the six years run, his executor may, notwithstanding, bring a fresh action, so as he bring it in a reasonable time, which is to be decided at the discretion of the justices upon the circumstances of the case. (z)

The principle of these cases, according to the judgment of Lord Chief Justice Treby, in the above mentioned case of *Kinsey v. Heyward*, is, that when once the proviso in the statute of limitations is complied with by the commencement of an action within due time, the party is out of the purview of the act, and set at liberty out of the restraint of the said statute. (z<sup>1</sup>) But the true ground of these decisions appears to be that they proceed upon the equity of the fourth section of the statute, and that the courts have extended that section to the case of an executor whose testator has died pending an action brought by him; which, though not within the words of it, was evidently within the mischief. (a) Accordingly, in *Adam v. The Inhabitants of the City of Bristol*, (b) the premises of A., a termor, having been burnt by a riotous assembly, A. complied with all the requisites of the statute 7 & 8 Geo. 4, c. 31, and commenced an action against the inhabitants of the city and county within three months from the offence. Before verdict or judgment, and after the expiration of the three months, A. died. His executrix commenced an action against the inhabitants on the seventh day from A.'s death. And the court of king's bench held, that supposing an executrix entitled to sue in any such case (as to which the court gave no \* opinion), (c) the action, having been commenced more than three months from the offence, was too late under the provision of section 3 of the statute, viz,

(y) 2 Saund. 64 c, note.

(z) Bull. N. P. 150 a.

(z<sup>1</sup>) [See *Downing v. Lindsay*, 2 Penn. St. 382.]

(a) 2 Ad. & El. 403, 404; [Story J. in *Trecothick v. Austin*, 4 Mason, 26, 27.]

(b) 2 Ad. & El. 389; S. C. *nomine Till*

— *Adam v. Inhabitants of Bristol*, 4 Nev.

& M. 144.

(c) See *ante*, 795.

"Provided also, that no person shall be enabled to bring any such action, unless he shall commence the same within three calendar months after the commission of the offence;" and that there was no analogy between this case and the above decisions on the general statute of limitations. But the same equitable construction that has been applied, as above mentioned, to the 4th section of the statute of James, has been followed as to the limitation of actions on bonds, &c. imposed by the stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 3. (d)

Where the right of action accrued to the testator during his residence abroad, and he died abroad, never having returned to this country after the accrual thereof, the statute is no bar to an action by his executors, although it accrued more than six years before action brought; at all events if it be brought within six years after his death. (e) For the case is saved by the 7th section of the statute (which provides that if the person entitled shall be abroad at the time the cause of action accrued, such person may bring his action within six years of his return from beyond the seas), though not strictly within the words of it. It has, indeed, been affirmed that the executor may bring the action at any time, on the ground that the case is out of the statute altogether. But the more reasonable equity, perhaps, is to consider the right of action as accruing to the executor at the death of the testator, and that the action ought to be brought within six years after that time.

Where the plaintiff declares as executor or administrator, upon a cause of action arising in the time of his testator or intestate, the defendant cannot, at the trial, deny the title of the plaintiff as executor or administrator, unless there be \* a plea of *ne unques executor*, or *ne unques administrator*. (e<sup>1</sup>) Thus, in an action of *assumpsit* by an ad-

(d) *Sturgis v. Darrell*, 4 H. & N. 622; *Axers v. Musselman*, 2 Browne, 115; S. C. in error, 6 H. & N. 120. *Prettyman v. Waples*, 4 Harring. 299;

(e) *Townsend v. Deacon*, 3 Ex. 706. *Chapman v. Davis*, 4 Gill, 166; *Thames v. Richardson*, 3 Strobb. 484; *Cheek v. Richardson*, 3 Strobb. 484; *Cheek v. Richardson*, 3 Strobb. 484;

(e<sup>1</sup>) [*Clark v. Pishon*, 31 Maine, 503; *Wheatly*, 11 Humph. 556; *Collins v. Thomas v. Tanner*, 6 T. B. Mon. 52; *Hyman v. Gray*, 4 Jones (Law), 155; *Sullivan v. Homacker*, 6 Florida, 372; *Aldis v. Burdick*, 8 Vt. 21; *Clapp v. Beardsley*, 1 Vt. 151; 2 Greenl. Ev. §§ 339, 340, 341; *Cheatham v. Riddle*, 12 Texas, 112; *Wheatly*, 11 Humph. 556; *Collins v. Ayres*, 13 Ill. 358; *Tapley v. Magee*, 6 Ired. 56; *Pollard v. Buttery*, 3 Blackf. 239; S. C. 4 Blackf. 48; *Codding v. Whitaker*, 5 Blackf. 470; *Scanlan v. Ruble*, 4 Blackf. 481; *Balance v. Frisby*, 2 Scammon, 165; *Kelly v. Thompson*, 2 Bre-

[1887]

ministrator, on promises to the intestate, the plea of *non-assumpsit* admits the title of the plaintiff as administrator, and the defendant will not be allowed to insist on the production of the letters of administration, (*e*<sup>2</sup>) or to object that they are not duly stamped, (*f*) nor that the supposed intestate has made a will and appointed an executor. (*g*) So, in an action of trover by an executor or administrator, on the possession of his intestate, if the defendant pleads the general issue, he will not be allowed to controvert the title of the plaintiff as administrator. (*h*) So where the plaintiff sues as executor, and there is no plea of *ne unques executor*, he cannot be called upon to prove that the testator is dead. (*i*)

However, the plea of the general issue only admits the title stated in the declaration; and therefore, if that title be insufficient, the plaintiff cannot recover. Thus, in an action by an administrator on a judgment recovered by his intestate in the king's bench at Westminster (which was *bonum notabile* in Middlesex), (*j*) where the plaintiff made *profert* (which at that time was necessary) of letters of administration from the archdeacon of Dorset, and the defendant pleaded a plea which admitted the letters of administration, it was held, on a motion of arrest in judgment, that the plea only admitted the plaintiff's title as stated, which appeared on the record an insufficient title; (*k*) for that the court

vard, 58; *Gibbs v. Caboon*, 3 Dev. (Law) 80; *Brown v. Nourse*, 55 Maine, 230; *Kowanachi v. Askew*, 17 Ark. 595; *Worshaw v. Goar*, 4 Porter (Ala.), 441; *Reynold v. Torrance*, 2 Brevard, 59; *Hughes v. Clayton*, 3 Call, 554.]

(*e*<sup>2</sup>) [*M'Kimm v. Riddle*, 2 Dallas, 100; *Wise v. Getty*, 3 Cranch C. C. 292; *Rawlings v. Paty*, 23 Ark. 204; *Hutchinson v. Bobo*, 1 Bailey, 546; *Kenan v. Du Bignon*, 46 Geo. 258.]

(*f*) *Thynne v. Protheroe*, 2 M. & S. 553.

(*g*) *Marshall v. Marsh*, 2 Ld. Raym. 824; *S. C. nomine Blainfield v. Marsh*, 7 Mod. 141; 1 Salk. 285; *Holt*, 44; [*Quidort v. Pergeaux*, 18 N. J. Eq. 472.]

(*h*) *Ib.* 2 Saund. 47 *z*, note to *Wilbraham v. Snow*.

(*i*) *Loyd v. Finlayson*, 2 Esp. 564. [As to the effect of the letters of administration to prove the death of the testator or

intestate, see *Tisdale v. Conn. Life Ins. Co.* 26 Iowa, 177; *S. C.* 28 Iowa, 12; *Mutual Benefit Life Ins. Co. v. Tisdale*, 3 Central L. J. 130. In some cases the grant of letters of administration has been held to be *prima facie* evidence of the intestate's death at that time. *Sims v. Boynton*, 32 Ala. 353; *Peterkin v. Inloes*, 4 Md. 175; *Brickhouse v. Brickhouse*, 11 Ired. (Law) 404; *Munroe v. Merchant*, 26 Barb. 383; *Jeffers v. Radcliffe*, 10 N. H. 242; *Siebert v. True*, 8 Kansas, 52.]

(*j*) See *ante*, 289, 290.

(*k*) *Adams v. Savage*, 6 Mod. 134. [So the defendant may show that the plaintiff cannot maintain the action as administrator, because there is an executor. *Chew v. Travers*, 2 Brevard, 146. So any other fact going to show that his appointment as an administrator was a nullity. *Blair v. Cincros*, 10 Texas, 34.]

would take judicial notice that the king's bench was not under the jurisdiction of the archdeacon of Dorset, and, by consequence, that an administration granted by him could not entitle the plaintiff to bring an action upon a \* judgment recovered there. But Holt C. J. said that if the plaintiff had not set forth what kind of administration he claimed by, but had only generally alleged himself administrator of the goods and chattels of the intestate, and the defendant had not put him upon showing it by craving *oyer* of the letters of administration, but had pleaded over, it would have been an admission of the plaintiff's right of suing as administrator as he had alleged. (l)

Again, where the plaintiff declared *on a cause of action arising in his own time*, and made *profert* of the probate or letters of administration, and the defendant pleaded the general issue, such plea did not formerly admit the plaintiff's title as executor or administrator. (l) Thus, where the plaintiff declared as administrator, in an action of trover, on a conversion in his own time, it was held that the plea of *not guilty* did not admit his title as administrator, and that as the letters of administration were not properly stamped, (2) he could not recover. (m)

But now by rule 5, T. T. 1858, in all actions by or against executors or administrators, the character in which the plaintiff or defendant is stated on the record to sue or be sued, shall not in any case be considered as an issue, unless specially denied.

However, where the plaintiff declares in trespass or trover, on his *constructive* possession as executor or administrator, without naming himself executor, he must, if his right to the property be put in issue, show his title as executor or administrator at the trial. (n)

But where the executor has been in *actual* possession of the property which is the subject of the suit, it will not be necessary for him to give evidence of his title as executor or administrator,

(l) 6 Mod. 136.

(2) [See *Miller v. Henderson*, 24 Ark.

(l) [See *Aldis v. Burdick*, 8 Vt. 21; 344.]

*Clapp v. Beardsley*, 1 Vt. 151; *Kesler v. Roseman*, *Busbee* (N. Car.), 389; *Browning v. Huff*, 2 Bailey, 174; *Macon &c. R. R. Co. v. Davis*, 18 Geo. 679; *Robinson v. McDonald*, 2 Geo. 116; *ante*, 1875, and note (m').]

(m) *Hunt v. Stevens*, 3 Taunt. 115, by *Lawrence J.*; 2 Saund. 47 z, note to *Wilbraham v. Snow*. But see *Watson v. King*, 4 Campb. 272, and *Loyd v. Finlayson*, 2 Esp. 564.

(n) *Ante*, 304, 305.

in an action against a wrong-doer. (o) And in \* such case it should seem that the naming himself executor or administrator in the declaration may be regarded as mere surplusage. (p)

It remains to consider, what shall be sufficient evidence of the plaintiff's title as executor or administrator, when it becomes necessary to prove it, either under a plea denying the representative character of the plaintiff, or in a suit on a cause of action arising in the plaintiff's own time. (p<sup>1</sup>)

what is  
sufficient  
proof of  
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tiff being  
executor,  
&c:

Although the executor derives his title from the will by which he is appointed, and not from the probate of the will, yet it is the probate alone which authenticates his right, and the probate, or something tantamount thereto, is the only legitimate evidence of personal property being vested in an executor, or of the executor's appointment. (q) Therefore, the original will cannot be read in evidence for that purpose, although produced by the officer of the court of probate, unless it bears the seal of the court, or some other mark of authentication. (r) The seal of the court of probate on the probate proves itself. (s) The probate need not be stamped under the stat. 20 & 21 Vict. c. 61, for that enactment applies only to a copy of the probate. (t)

probate:

If the probate is lost, it was not the practice of the ecclesiastical court to grant a second, but only an exemplification from the records of the court; which would be evidence of the proving the will. (u) And an examined copy of the probate is evidence of the person there named being executor; because the probate is an original, taken by authority, and of a public nature. (v)

(o) *Ante*, 305; [Cheek v. Wheatly, 11 Humph. 556.] But see, also, Waller v. Drakeford, 1 El. & Bl. 49.

(p) Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 1. [So, wherever the plaintiff describes himself as executor or administrator, but states a cause of action in his own right, a plea that he is not executor or administrator is not good. Spurgen v. Robinet, 4 Bibb, 75; Bailey v. Gatton, 14 Ark. 180.]

(p<sup>1</sup>) [Administration cannot be proved by parol evidence. Hay v. Bruere, 6 N. J. (Law) 212.]

(q) *Ante*, 292, 293; Hamilton v. Aston, 1 Carr. & Kirw. 679. [See Smith v. Maybry, 7 Yerger, 26; Seymour v. Beach, 4 Vt. 493.]

(r) R. v. Barnes, 1 Stark. N. P. C. 243; Pinney v. Pinney, 8 B. & C. 335. Nor is a copy of the will evidence. Bull. N. P. 246.

(s) Court of probate act, 20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 22. See, also, S. P. before the act passed, Kempton v. Cross, Cas. temp. Hardw. 108.

(t) Rippon v. Priest, 3 Fost. & F. 644.

(u) Shepherd v. Shorthouse, 1 Stra. 412; Bull. N. P. 246.

(v) Hoe v. Nelthorpe, 3 Salk. 154; S. C. 1 Ld. Raym. 154; S. P. by Holt C. J. in R. v. Haines, Skinn. 584; Bull. N. P. 246.



\* It must be observed, that all that is required, either in the case of an executor or administrator, is to show by legitimate evidence that the court of probate has given authority to the person to administer. It is only the act of the court of probate that is to be proved. The probate is only a copy of this act. The original book containing the entry of the act of court is the original, and therefore the primary evidence. Hence the act book, containing an entry of a will having been proved, and of probate granted to the executors therein named, is admissible evidence of those persons being the executors, without accounting for the non-production of the probate. (x) And a copy of the act book is now admissible under the stat. 14 & 15 Vict. c. 99, s. 14. (y)

Accordingly it was held, in a case before the court of probate act (1857), that in order to prove the title of a lessor of the plaintiff in ejectment, claiming as executor, it was sufficient (without laying ground for the reception of secondary evidence) to produce minutes of the proof of the will and sealing of probate, indorsed on the will by the surrogate and registrar of the ecclesiastical court; it being proved also that, by the practice of the particular court, no other record of such grants was kept. (z)

An exemplification of letters of administration *de bonis non*, reciting the former grant of administration, requires to be stamped only as an exemplification of a single proceeding under stat. 55 Geo. 3, c. 184, Sched. part. II. tit. "Proceedings in the Ecclesiastical Courts." For the one title appears merely as identifying the party on whom the other was conferred. (a)

To prove that the probate of a will had been revoked, an \* entry of the revocation in a book of the prerogative court, in which all causes were entered by the registrar, and which was kept as the only record of such proceedings, and of the decree of the court, was admitted to be good evidence. (b)

The title of several plaintiffs, claiming as executors, is well evidenced by probate, granted to one only, of the will appointing them all. (c) And the rule is the same whether they sue in their

(x) Cox v. Allingham, Jacob, 514.

(y) Dorrett v. Meux, 15 C. B. 142.

(z) Doe v. Mew, 7 Ad. & El. 240; S. C. 2 N. & P. 260.

(a) Doe v. Gunning, 7 Ad. & El. 240.

(b) Ramsbottom's case, 1 Leach Cr. C.

60, note (c); 1 Phill. Ev. 378, 6th ed.

(c) Walters v. Pfeil, 1 Mood. & Malk.

362; Scott v. Briant, 6 Nev. & M. 381.

representative character or not; (*d*) for probate granted to one of several executors inures to the benefit of all. (*e*)

The title of an administration *de bonis non* is sufficiently proved by the letters of administration *de bonis non*, without those granted to the first executor or administrator. (*f*)

Where an executor or administrator produces the probate or letters in proof of his representative character, and his case shows that he sues for a greater value than is covered by the probate or administration stamp, he cannot recover. (*g*) Thus, in *Hunt v. Stevens*, (*h*) the plaintiff declared in trover as administrator, upon a conversion of his own time. It appeared that the deceased employed the defendant, who was an upholsterer, to furnish his house, and the defendant, accordingly, a fortnight before his death, sent in goods to the amount of at least 1,800*l*. During the night of the day on which the intestate died, the defendant privately conveyed away the furniture from the house. The plaintiff afterwards took out administration, on a stamp for a value not exceeding 1,000*l*. And it was held, that, as he had himself shown that he sued for a greater value than was covered by the stamp, \* he could not recover. So, in *Carr v. Roberts*, (*i*) an intestate had granted an annuity to Anne Smith, and afterwards by deed conveyed his property to the defendant, who covenanted to indemnify him against the payment of the annuity. Default having been subsequently made in the payment, during the intestate's life, the annuitant sued his administratrix, and recovered judgment for debt and costs, exceeding 20*l*. The administratrix paid this, and then sued the defendant on his covenant for the amount. And the court of king's bench held, on the authority of *Hunt v. Stevens*, and overruling the decision of Lord Tenterden at *nisi prius*, (*k*) that the right to recover this was a part of the intestate's estate, and rendered the letters of administration liable to stamp duty. (*l*)

(*d*) 1 Mood. & Malk. 362.

(*e*) *Ante*, 381, 382; *Watkins v. Brent*, 7 Sim. 512.

(*f*) *Catherwood v. Chabaud*, 1 B. & C. 150. See, also, *Gradell v. Tyson*, 2 Stra. 716. [Where issue is joined on a plea denying that the plaintiff is administrator, proof that he is administrator, with the will annexed, supports the issue on the

part of the plaintiff. *Owings v. Beall*, 1 Litt. (Ky.) 257.]

(*g*) See *ante*, 595 *et seq.*, as to the amount of stamp.

(*h*) 3 Taunt. 113.

(*i*) 2 B. & Ad. 905.

(*k*) 2 Mood. & Malk. 45.

(*l*) See *ante*, 614.

The title of the plaintiff, as administrator, may be proved by letters of administration: the production of the letters of administration, or of a certificate or exemplification thereof granted by the court of probate, (*m*) or, without producing the letters of administration, by the original book of acts, directing the grant of the letters; (*n*) or by a copy of it since the stat. 14 & 15 Vict. c. 99. (*o*) The original book of acts, directing letters of administration to be granted, with the surrogate's *fiat* for the same, was held to be evidence of the title of the party to whom administration of the intestate's effects is granted, without producing the letters of administration themselves (notwithstanding subsequent letters of administration granted to another), if the first are not recalled; for the original book was the authority for the proper officer to \* make out letters of administration, and the letters of administration were only the copy of the original minutes of the court, drawn up in a more formal manner. (*p*) So an examined copy of the act book, stating that administration was granted to the defendant at such a time, is proof of his being administrator in an action against him, without giving him notice to produce his letters of administration. (*q*)

There has already been occasion to consider how far a probate or letters of administration, when produced by the plaintiff, are conclusive upon the defendant. (*r*) But it may be convenient, in this place, to recapitulate some of the points established on this subject.

The defendant cannot prove that another person was appointed

(*m*) *Kempton v. Cross*, Cas. temp. Hardw. 108; Bull. N. P. 246. Administration is generally granted under seal; but it may also be granted by entry in the registry without letters under seal. 11 Vin. Abr. 70; Exor. D. pl. 4; 1 Phill. Evid. 378, 6th ed. [See *Collins v. Ayers*, 13 Ill. 358; *Owings v. Beall*, 1 Litt. (Ky.) 257; *Westcott v. Cady*, 5 John. Ch. 334; *ante*, 550, note (*g*); *Seymour v. Beach*, 4 Vt. 493; *Davis v. Shuler*, 14 Florida, 438. In New Hampshire, a certificate of a register of probate is not competent evidence of a grant of administration. A copy of the record, where it is kept, is the proper evidence. *Morse v. Bellows*, 7 N. H. 549. See *Dickinson v. M'Craw*, 4 Rand. 158. In New York an exemplification of letters of administration from the surrogate's office is good evidence, without accounting for the non-production of the original letters. *Jackson v. Robinson*, 4 Wend. 436.]

(*n*) *Ib.*; *Elden v. Keddell*, 8 East, 187; S. P. by Bayley J. in *Ramsbottom v. Buckhurst*, 2 M. & Sel. 657; 1 Phill. Evid. 378, 6th ed.

(*o*) *Dorrett v. Meux*, 15 C. B. 142.

(*p*) *Elden v. Keddell*, 8 East, 187; *Garrett v. Lister*, 1 Lev. 25; Bull. N. P. 246; 2 M. & Sel. 567; 1 Phill. Evid. 378, 6th ed.

(*q*) *Davis v. Williams*, 13 East, 232; 1 Phill. Evid. 378, 6th ed.

(*r*) *Ante*, 549 *et seq.*; [*Raborg v. Hammond*, 2 H. & Gill, 42.]

executor or administrator, or that the testator was insane, or that the will, of which probate has been granted, was forged; for that would be directly contrary to the seal of the court of probate in a matter within its immediate jurisdiction. (*s*)

But it might be proved, on the part of the defendant, under a plea of *ne unques executor*, that the deceased had *bona notabilia* in divers dioceses, and consequently that the bishop or other inferior judge had no jurisdiction to grant probate or administration. (*t*) But a defence that, although the probate was valid, the particular debt did not pass under it, must have been specially pleaded, and could not be shown under *ne unques executor*. (*u*)

Again, it may be proved, under a plea of *ne unques executor*, *f.c.* that the supposed testator or intestate is alive; for in such case, the court of probate can have no jurisdiction. (*x*) And it may be shown that the seal attached to the supposed probate has been forged, or that the letters have been revoked. (*y*)

Again, the defendant may plead in his defence, that he has paid the debt, which is the subject of the action, to an executor who had obtained probate of a forged will, unrepealed at the time of the payment. (*z*) But payment of money under the probate of a supposed will of a living person would be void; because, in such case, the court of probate has no jurisdiction, and the probate can have no effect. (*a*)

It may be doubted whether admissions made by an executor or administrator, before he was clothed with that character, are receivable in evidence against him in an action brought by or against him in his representative capacity. (*b*) How-

Whether  
admissions  
made by  
an execu-

(*s*) *Ante*, 549, 550, 563; [*ante*, 1887; *Fishwick v. Sewell*, 4 Harr. & J. 393; *Wilson v. Ireland*, 4 Md. 444; *Leonard v. Cameron*, 39 Miss. 419; *Raborg v. Hammond*, 2 H. & Gill, 42.]

(*t*) *Ante*, 289, 290; *Marriot v. Marriot*, 1 Stra. 671.

(*u*) *Ante*, 563; *Stokes v. Bate*, 5 B. & C. 491; *Easton v. Carter*, 6 Ex. 8.

(*x*) *Ante*, 409, note (*a*), 563, 586, note (*a*).

(*y*) *Ante*, 563.

(*z*) *Ante*, 551; *Allen v. Dundas*, 3 T. R. 125.

(*a*) 3 T. R. 130. [See *ante*, 409, note (*a*), 549, note (*a*), 586, note (*a*).]

(*b*) See *Stewart v. Edmonds*, *ante*, 407,

note (*z*). [It has been held that the admissions of an executor or administrator, made before he was appointed, cannot be received to prejudice the rights of heirs and creditors interested in the estate. *Thomasson v. Driskell*, 13 Geo. 253; *Gaines v. Alexander*, 7 Grattan, 257; *Gilkey v. Hamilton*, 22 Mich. 283. But evidence of the admissions and promises of an executor or administrator, made after his appointment, is admissible to charge the estate in a suit by or against him in his representative capacity. *Lawson v. Powell*, 31 Geo. 681; *Floyd v. Wallace*, 31 Geo. 688; *Matson v. Clapp*, 8 Ohio, 248; *Emerson v. Thompson*, 16

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ecutor.

ever, in *Smith v. Morgan*, (c) Tindal C. J. admitted the declaration of the assignees of a bankrupt, made by them before their appointment, stating that he was not aware of any distinction between the admissions of parties suing in a representative character and in their own right. (d)

The admission of one of several executors or administrators will not bind the others; at all events, unless it is made in the character of executor. Therefore where two executors were sued as such on a covenant of their testator for quiet enjoyment, and the question was whether the defendants who had evicted the plaintiff had done so under lawful title, it was held that an admission of *one* of the defendants was no evidence of such title. (e)

If the judgment be for the plaintiff, he is entitled to the costs as in an ordinary case. But it was uniformly held, up  
Costs. \* to the time of the passing of the statute 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42 (hereafter to be mentioned), that executors and administrators were not liable to costs, when plaintiffs, upon a nonsuit or verdict, where the action was brought upon a contract entered into by the testator or intestate, or for a wrong done in his lifetime. (f)

Mass. 429; *Atkins v. Sanger*, 1 Pick. 192; *Heywood v. Heywood*, 10 Allen, 105; *Faunce v. Gray*, 21 Pick. 243; *Hill v. Buckminster*, 5 Pick. 391; *Allen v. Allen*, 26 Missou. 327; *Haleyburton v. Kershaw*, 3 Desaus. 105. But see *Wright v. Wright*, 2 Brevard, 125; *Ciples v. Alexander*, 3 Brevard, 558; *Rhodes v. Seymour*, 36 Conn. 1; *Pease v. Phelps*, 10 Conn. 68; *Hueston v. Hueston*, 2 Ohio St. 488. As to admissions by an administrator in reference to acts of his intestate, in a case where the administrator is plaintiff, see, further, *Wheelock v. Wheelock*, 5 Vt. 433. The admissions of an executor are competent evidence to charge the estate of the deceased in the hands of an administrator *de bonis non*. *Lashlee v. Jacobs*, 9 Humph. 718; *Emerson v. Thompson*, 16 Mass. 429. But see *McArthur v. Corrie*, 32 Ala. 75; *Pease v. Phelps*, 10 Conn. 62. But in an action upon a judgment recovered in another state by an administrator appointed in that state, his admissions that the judgment was fraudulent were held not

competent against the administrator appointed in Texas and bringing the action there. *Norwood v. Cobb*, 20 Texas, 588.]

(c) 2 M. & Rob. 257.

(d) See, *contra*, *Fenwick v. Thornton*, M. & M. 51, *coram* Lord Tenterden.

(e) *Fox v. Waters*, 12 Ad. & El. 43. See, also, *Scholey v. Walton*, 12 M. & W. 510; [*Hammon v. Huntley*, 4 Cowen, 493; *Forsyth v. Ganson*, 5 Wend. 558; *McIntire v. Morris*, 14 Wend. 90; *James v. Hackley*, 16 John. 273; *Walkup v. Pratt*, 5 Harr. & J. 53.]

(f) *Jones v. Williams*, 6 M. & Sel. 178; *Barnard v. Higdon*, 3 B. & Ald. 213; S. C. 1 Chitt. Rep. 628; *Woolly v. Sloper*, 9 Bing. 754; *Pickup v. Wharton*, 2 Cr. & M. 401; S. C. 4 Tyrwh. 224; [*Frink v. Luyton*, 2 Bay, 166; *Jamison v. Lindsay*, 1 Bailey, 79; *Bordeaux v. Cave*, 2 Bailey, 6; *Mealer v. Meyers*, 2 Bailey, 53; *Jameson v. Young*, 2 Litt. 387; *Hatcraft v. Gentry*, 2 J. J. Marsh. 499; *Pronty v. M'Dougall*, 6 Cowen, 612; *Frogg v. Long*, 3 Dana, 157; *Chamberlin*

[1895]

But now by stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 31, "in every action brought by any executor or administrator in right of the testator or intestate, such executor or administrator shall, unless the court in which such action is brought, or a judge of any of the said superior courts shall otherwise order, be liable to pay costs to the defendant in case of being nonsuited, or a verdict passing against the plaintiff, and in all other cases in which he would be liable if such plaintiff were suing in his own right upon a cause of action accruing to himself; and the defendant shall have judgment for such costs, and they shall be recovered in like manner."

In the construction of this statute, it has been held that the act has put executors and administrators, when plaintiffs, on the same footing as other plaintiffs, as to their liability to costs, (*f*<sup>1</sup>) unless where the court sees that they have been misled by some misconduct on the part of the defendant. Therefore it is not a sufficient claim for relief, that the action was brought *bonâ fide* with appar-

*v. Spencer*, 4 Cowen, 550; *Ketchum v. Ketchum*, 4 Cowen, 87; *Morse v. M'Coy*, 4 Cowen, 551; *Pillsbury v. Hubbard*, 10 N. H. 224; *Harrison v. McMenomy*, 2 Edw. Ch. 251; *Moses v. Murgatroyd*, 1 John. Ch. 473; *Gibbons v. Johnson*, 4 Ill. (3 Scam.) 61; *Van Orden v. Reynolds*, 18 Wend. 635; *Swift v. Roalwine*, 1 Brevard, 175; *Holley v. Christopher*, 3 T. B. Monr. 14; *Woodbridge v. Draper*, 15 Misson. 460; *Burhams v. Blanchard*, 1 Denio, 626; *Callender v. Keystone Ins. Co.* 23 Penn. St. 371. In New Hampshire, where judgment for costs is rendered upon a nonsuit, in an action brought by an administrator for a cause of action which accrued to his intestate, and is so alleged, the judgment is properly entered, in the first instance, against the goods and estate of the intestate in the hands of the administrator; but, upon the return of *nulla bona* on the execution in such case, and *scire facias* to the administrator, execution is to be awarded against him, *de bonis propriis*, if he fails to show cause why it should not be awarded. It is held to be good cause why such execution should not be awarded that the administrator commenced the action in good faith, upon a supposed valid claim

which he had reasonable expectation of recovering, although at the time of suit brought he had administered all the estate, and settled his administration account, and had no balance in his hands to be distributed. *Folsom v. Blaisdell*, 38 N. H. 100. See *Pillsbury v. Hubbard*, 10 N. H. 233.] The reason was that the statute, 23 Hen. 8, c. 15, s. 1, by which costs were first given to defendants, was confined to wrongs done to and contracts with the plaintiff.

(*f*<sup>1</sup>) [Such is the law in Vermont. *O'Hear v. Skeeles*, 22 Vt. 152. An executor or administrator instituting a suit against a debtor to his testator's or intestate's estate; as he will, if he succeeds, be entitled, under the general rule, to the costs of his suit from the debtor; so if he fails he must pay the costs of his adversary. *Westley v. Williamson*, 2 Moll. 458; *Murray v. Phillips*, 1 Paige, 472; *Arnoux v. Steinbrenner*, 1 Paige, 82; *Nicoll v. Trustees of Huntington*, 1 John. Ch. 166; *Goodrich v. Pendleton*, 3 John. Ch. 520; *Roosevelt v. Ellithorp*, 10 Paige, 415; *Harrison v. McMenomy*, 2 Edw. Ch. 251; *Capehurt v. Huey*, 1 Hill Ch. 405; *Peyton v. McDowell*, 3 Dana, 314; *Shepherd v. McClain*, 3 C. E. Green, 128; 2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1382.]

ently reasonable grounds for suing, and that the plaintiff was taken by surprise by the defence. (*g*) The court of king's bench have held \* that where a single judge has made an order under the statute to exempt the plaintiff from liability to costs, such order is final, and cannot be reviewed by the court. (*h*) But, in a subsequent case, the barons of exchequer expressed their dissent from this decision in K. B. (*i*) The application for relief should regularly be made before the taxation takes place. (*k*)

Again, if the plaintiff brings an action on a wrong done in his own time, (*l*) or upon a contract, express or implied, made with himself, he shall pay costs to the defendant, though he sues as executor or administrator, if he fails in the action, by virtue of the statute of Hen. 8, (*m*) and independently of the statute of W. 4. (*n*) And in actions of this description, the plaintiff cannot, in any instance, be relieved from his liability to costs, by the provisions of the latter statute. For the operation of that act is confined to cases where the executor or administrator was not liable to costs under the statute of Hen. 8. Therefore, where an executor sues on a count upon promises made to himself as executor, and is nonsuited, he is liable to costs, and the court, or a judge, has no discretion to exempt him from them under the statute of W. 4. (*o*)

(*g*) *Southgate v. Crowley*, 1 Bing. N. C. 518; *Godson v. Freeman*, 2 Cr., M. & R. 585; S. C. 1 Tyrwh. & Gr. 35; *Farley v. Bryant*, 3 Ad. & El. 839; *Engler v. Twisden*, 2 Bing. N. C. 263; *Birkhead v. North*, 2 Bail Court Rep. 9; S. C. 4 D. & L. 732. See, also, *Wilkinson v. Edwards*, 1 Bing. N. C. 301; *Prole v. Wiggins*, 3 Bing. N. C. 235. Mere silence as to the defence will not suffice. 2 Bail Court Rep. 9.

(*h*) *Maddock v. Phillips*, 3 Ad. & El. 198.

(*i*) *Lakin v. Massie*, 4 Dowl. 239.

(*k*) *Ashton v. Pointer*, 5 Tyrwh. 326, by Parke B.

(*l*) *Cockerill v. Kynaston*, 4 T. R. 227; S. C. cited by Le Blanc J. in *Ord v. Fenwick*, 3 East, 110; *Eaves v. Mocato*, 1 Salk. 314; *Hole v. King*, Com. Rep. 162; *Hollis v. Smith*, 10 East, 293; *Grimstead v. Shirley*, 2 Taunt. 116; 2 Saund. 47 y, note to *Williamson v. Snow*; *Farley v.*

*Farley*, 2 Bailey, 319. In case the plaintiffs describe themselves as executors, and the cause of action is alleged to have accrued to them after the decease of the testator, and the executors might have sued in their own right, judgment for costs, if they fail in the action, may be entered against them *de bonis propriis*: *Moulton v. Wendell*, 37 N. H. 406; *Pillsbury v. Hubbard*, 10 N. H. 224; *Keniston v. Little*, 30 N. H. 322, 323.]

(*m*) See *ante*, 1895, note (*f*).

(*n*) *Dowbiggin v. Harrison*, 9 B. & C. 666; *Jobson v. Forster*, 1 B. & Ad. 6; *Slater v. Lawson*, 1 B. & Ad. 893; [*Barker v. Baker*, 5 Cowen, 267; *Chamberlin v. Spencer*, 4 Cowen, 550; *Ketchum v. Ketchum*, 4 Cowen, 87; *Frink v. Luyton*, 2 Bay, 166.]

(*o*) *Spence v. Albert*, 2 Ad. & El. 785; *Ashton v. Poynter*, 1 Cr., M. & R. 738; S. C. 5 Tyrwh. 322; overruling *Lysons v. Barrow*, 10 Bing. 563. It is too late to

Again, independently of the statute of W. 4, the court has, in actions by executors and administrators, as well as \*in all other actions, the power of punishing the plaintiffs for misbehavior in the conduct of the suit, by the imposition of costs. (*p*) So it was held, before that statute, that where an executor or administrator had knowingly brought a wrong action, or otherwise been guilty of a wilful default, he should pay costs upon a discontinuance, (*q*) or for not proceeding to trial according to notice. (*r*) Again, an executor is liable independently of the statutes, to costs upon judgment of *non pros*; (*s*) and if he wishes to be relieved from costs, he should apply to the court for leave to discontinue, without payment of costs. (*t*) So executors or administrators have always been held liable to costs upon interlocutory motions. (*u*) The court will not suspend the payment of such costs until the

strike out such a count after the cause has been taken down to trial. *Tomlinson v. Nanny*, 2 Dowl. 17. [In Massachusetts, when a judgment for costs is rendered against an executor or administrator, in an action commenced by or against him, or in an action commenced by or against the testator or intestate; wherein the executor or administrator has appeared and taken upon himself the prosecution or defence, he shall be personally liable for the costs; and when judgment is recovered for costs only, the execution shall be awarded against the body, goods, and estate of the executor or administrator, as if it were for his own debt; but when the judgment is or debts for damages, and costs, an execution for the debt or damages shall be awarded against the goods and estate of the deceased in the hands of the executor or administrator; and another execution for the costs, against the goods, estate, and body of the executor or administrator, as if it were for his own debt. The costs, however, paid by executors or administrators, and for which they are made personally liable, shall be allowed in their administration accounts, unless the probate court decides that the suit was prosecuted or defended without reasonable cause. *Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 98, § 13; c. 128, §§ 6, 7, 8, 9.*

Actual payment is, by the terms of this statute, a condition precedent to the allowance of such costs in the account of the executor or administrator. *Thacher v. Dunham*, 5 Gray, 26. As to the law in Massachusetts before this statute, see *Hardy v. Call*, 16 Mass. 530; *Brooks v. Stevens*, 2 Pick. 68; *Healy v. Root*, 11 Pick. 389; *Pierce v. Saxton*, 14 Pick. 274; *Pillsbury v. Hubbard*, 10 N. H. 229, 230.]

(*p*) *Comber v. Hardcastle*, 3 Bos. & Pull. 115, 117, 118; [*Robert v. Ditmas*, 7 Wend. 522; *Taylor v. How*, 1 Wend. 34; *Pope v. Delavan*, 1 Wend. 68; *Davis v. Davis*, 3 Hill Ch. 377; *Sawyer J. in Folsom v. Blaisdell*, 38 N. H. 106; *Pillsbury v. Hubbard*, 10 N. H. 233; *Keniston v. Little*, 31 N. H. 318.]

(*q*) *Harris v. Jones*, 1 W. Bl. 451; *Melhuish v. Maunders*, 2 New Rep. 72; *Tidd*, 979, 9th ed. [See *Taylor v. How*, 1 Wend. 34. But it seems to be otherwise where he brings a wrong action by mistake. *Phenix v. Hill*, 3 John. 249.]

(*r*) *Woolley v. Sloper*, 9 Bing. 754; *Pickup v. Wharton*, 2 Cr. & M. 401; *S. C.* 4 Tyrwh. 224. [See *Morse v. M'Coy*, 4 Cowen, 551.]

(*s*) 2 Cr. & M. 403; 4 Tyrwh. 226; [*Rudd v. Cabbe*, 4 John. 190.]

(*t*) 1 Chitt. Rep. 629.

(*u*) *Tidd*, 979, 9th ed.

[1897]



plaintiff has received sufficient assets, to be paid *quando acciderint*. (x)

Executors and administrators are liable to costs in error in cases where they are liable to costs in the original action. (y)

Plaintiffs who live out of the jurisdiction of the court may be compelled to give security for costs, though such plaintiffs sue as executors. (z)

There has already been occasion (a) (in considering the subject of what suits commenced by a testator may be continued by the executor or administrator) to point out the course by which a judgment obtained by the deceased may be enforced by his personal representative. (a<sup>1</sup>) It may here be \* added, that although, generally speaking, a revival of the judgment is requisite, in order to obtain execution, yet if a testator or intestate has obtained a judgment, and a writ of *fi. fa.* or *ca. sa.* issues in his lifetime, it may be executed after his death. (b)

But until the executor or administrator has made himself a party to the judgment, he is not entitled, under the 61st section of the common law procedure act, 1854, to attach a debt due to the judgment debtor. (c)

If an executor or administrator obtains judgment, and then the probate or letters of administration are revoked, the regular mode for the defendant to obtain relief is by an *audita querela*; (d) though, perhaps, at this day, the court would relieve the defendant, in a summary way, by motion. In *Kennedy v. Kennedy*, (e) upon a rule to show cause why a trial should not be put off, it appeared that the action was brought by an administrator, and that a suit was depending in the spiritual court for revoking the letters of administration. But the court said that there was

(x) *Andrews v. Sealy*, 8 Price, 212; to costs, *Clarke v. Higgins*, 2 Root, 398. Tidd, 979, 9th ed. Where they are pursued in an action, defended by their testator, see *Farrier v. Cairns*, 5 Ham. 45.]

(y) *Williams v. Riley*, 1 H. Bl. 566. Since the stat. of W. 4 it should seem they are liable in all cases, unless the court or a judge shall otherwise order. (b) *Ellis v. Griffith*, 16 M. & W. 106. [See *Commonwealth v. Whitney*, 10 Pick. 434.]

(z) *Chevalier v. Finnis*, 1 Brod. & Bing. 277; S. C. 3 Moore, 602; *Chamberlain v. Chamberlain*, 1 Dowl. 366. (d) *Holmes v. Tutton*, 5 El. & Bl. 65. (e) *Turner v. Davies*, 2 Saund. 148; S. C. 1 Mod. 62.

(a) *Ante*, 898 *et seq.*

(a<sup>1</sup>) [Where executors pursue an action commenced by their testator, see, as

[1898]

no need to put off the trial; for if the plaintiff should proceed to execution, and the letters of administration should afterwards be revoked, an *audita querela* would lie for the defendant.

Where an *audita querela* was brought against two executors, and only one appeared, and the other made default, he who appeared was awarded to answer alone. (*f*)

By stat. 9 & 10 Vict. c. 95, s. 56, any executor or administrator may sue and be sued in any of the county courts in like manner as if he were a party in his own right, and judgment and execution shall be such as in the like case would be given or issued in any superior court. County court act.

If the holder of a bill be dead, and the executor has not yet proved the will, it is said that the bill must nevertheless \* be presented for payment at the regular time; but it should seem that the drawer and indorsers would not be discharged, provided presentment be made, and notice given of the dishonor, by the executor or administrator, at a reasonable time. (*g*) Presentment of bill of exchange by executor.

(*f*) 2 Saund. 148 *a*, note to Turner v. Hubbard, 4 Met. 252, 261, 262; *post*, 2003, Davies. note (*l*).]

(*g*) See Roscoe on Bills, 147; [Rand v.

[1899]

## \* CHAPTER THE SECOND.

## OF REMEDIES FOR EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS IN EQUITY.

What suits  
an execu-  
tor may  
have.

AN executor or administrator is entitled to all the equitable interests of the deceased, and may, in his representative capacity, enforce them in a court of equity. (*a*)

There has already been occasion to point out, (*b*) that, at law, the interest which the testator had in a *chose in action* jointly with another shall not pass to his executor. But in equity the same rule does not prevail. Therefore, where a mortgage is made to several persons jointly, they are, in equity, tenants in common of the mortgage money, and the representatives of such of them as may be dead are necessary parties, with the survivor, to a bill for foreclosure or redemption. (*c*)

The executors of the writer of letters may maintain a bill in equity to restrain the defendant from publishing them. Accordingly, Mrs. Stanhope was, on bill filed by the executors of Lord Chesterfield, restrained from publishing the letters which had been received by her husband, his natural son, from the testator. (*d*) So the representatives of Lord Clarendon obtained an injunction to restrain the printing of an unpublished copy of his History of the Rebellion, which had been given by a former representative of the author to a person under whom the defendant claimed, but not with an intention that he should publish it. (*e*)

\* An executor or administrator may exhibit a bill for the discovery of the personal estate of the deceased. (*f*)

(*a*) Com. Dig. Chancery, 2 B. 1, 3 G. 1. 1647; *Folsom v. Marsh*, 2 Story, 100; 2 [See *West v. Bank of Rutland*, 9 Vt. 408; Story Eq. Jur. § 946 *et seq.*]

*Adams v. Adams*, 22 Vt. 50; *Morris v. Slasson*, 13 Vt. 296; *Beach v. Norton*, 9 Conn. 182, 196. (*e*) *Queensberry v. Shebbeare*, 2 Eden, 329. [The receiver of letters has but a qualified property in them; they pass to the administrator, but are not assets in his hands. *Eyre v. Higbee*, 35 Barb. 502.]

(*b*) *Ante*, 843.

(*c*) *Vickers v. Cowell*, 1 Beav. 529.

(*d*) *Thompson v. Stanhope*, Ambl. 737.

See, also, *Granard v. Dunkin*, 1 Ball & Beat. 207; [2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.)

(*f*) Com. Dig. Chancery, 2 B. 1; *Wright v. Bluck*, 1 Vern. 106. [The ob-

[1900] [1901]

An executor may, under certain circumstances, (*g*) file a bill to compel a legatee to refund his legacy; (*h*) though a court of law cannot entertain an action for that purpose. (*i*)

During the last twenty years numerous statutes have been passed providing facilities for executors in the discharge of their duties, and relieving them from some of the responsibilities incident to their office.

Thus by stat. 10 & 11 Vict. c. 96, entitled, *An act for better securing trust funds, and for the relief of trustees*, after reciting that "it is expedient to provide means for better securing trust funds, and for relieving trustees from the responsibility of administering trust funds in cases where they are desirous of being so relieved," it is enacted, "That all trustees, executors, administrators, or other persons, having in their hands any money belonging to any trust whatsoever, or the major part of them, shall be at liberty, on filing an affidavit shortly describing the instrument creating the trust, according to the best of their knowledge and belief, to pay the same, (*k*) with the privity of the

10 & 11  
Vict. c. 96.  
  
Trustees  
may pay  
trust  
moneys or  
transfer  
stocks and  
securities  
into the  
court of  
chancery.

ject of this proceeding for discovery is effected in the probate court by statutes in some of the American States. In Massachusetts, see Genl. Sta. c. 96, § 6; *Martin v. Clapp*, 99 Mass. 470; *Arnold v. Sabin*, 4 Cush. 46; *Wilson v. Leishman*, 12 Met. 320; *O'Dee v. McCrate*, 7 Greenl. 467; *Higbee v. Bacon*, 7 Pick. 14; *Boston v. Boylston*, 4 Mass. 322; *Kimball v. Kimball*, 19 Vt. 579; *Case's Appeal*, 35 Conn. 115. Under the statute of Indiana, an administrator may file a bill in chancery against one who intermeddles with or embezzles goods of the estate, instead of proceeding at law. *Thorn v. Tyler*, 13 Blackf. (Ind.) 504.] Lapse of time will not of itself bar an executor of an executor of his right to have an account of his executor's testator's estate taken, with a view to ascertain such executor's liabilities as an accounting party. *Smith v. O'Grady*, L. R. 3 P. C. C. 311.

(*g*) See *ante*, 1450.

(*h*) See *Doe v. Guy*, 3 East, 123, by Lord Ellenborough. [A suit by an administrator, for reimbursement of sums

paid to creditors beyond the personal assets, is proper matter of equity jurisdiction. *Williams v. Williams*, 2 Dev. Ch. 69.]

(*i*) *Johnson v. Johnson*, 3 Bos. & Pull. 169; 3 East, 124.

(*k*) Where an executor pays a legacy into court under this act, his costs of paying it in are to be borne by the estate; but those of paying it out by the legatee. *Re Cawthorne*, 12 Beav. 56; *Re Jones*, 3 Drew. 679; unless the fund paid in has been completely severed and appropriated; then the costs of payment into court must come out of the fund itself. *Re Lorimer*, 12 Beav. 521. But the court, by the second section of the act, has jurisdiction to order a trustee to pay the costs of a petition for payment out of court of a fund paid in by him under the act; *Re Woodburn's Will*, 1 De G. & J. 333; and will exercise it where the trustees have acted vexatiously or unreasonably. *S. C. See*, also, *Re Cater's Trusts*, 25 Beav. 361; *Re Knight's Trusts*, 27 Beav. 45; *Re Foligno's Mortgage*, 32 Beav. 131; *Re Leake's*

\*accountant general of the high court of chancery, into the bank of England, to the account of such accountant general in the matter of the particular trust (describing the same by the names of the parties, as accurately as may be, for the purpose of distinguishing it (*l*), in trust to attend the orders of the said court; and that all trustees or other persons having any annuities or stocks standing in their names in the books of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England or of the East India Company, or South Sea Company, or any government or parliamentary securities standing in their names, or in the names of any deceased persons of whom they shall be personal representatives, upon any trust whatsoever, or the major part of them, shall be at liberty to transfer or deposit such stocks or securities into or in the name of the said accountant general, with his privity, in the matter of the particular trust (describing the same as aforesaid), in trust to attend the orders of the said court; and in every such case the receipt of one of the cashiers of the said bank for the money so paid, or, in the case of stocks or securities, the certificate of the proper officer, of the transfer or deposit of such stocks or securities, shall be a sufficient discharge to such trustees or other persons for the money so paid, or the stocks or securities so transferred or deposited."

Receipt of bank cashier, or certificate of proper officer, to be sufficient discharge.

II. "Such orders as shall seem fit shall be from time to \*time made by the high court of chancery in respect of the trust moneys, stocks, or securities so paid in, transferred, and deposited as aforesaid, and for the investment and payment of any such moneys, or of any dividends or interest on any such stocks or securities, and for the transfer and delivery out of any such stocks and securities and for the administration of any such trusts generally, upon a petition to be presented in a summary way to the lord chancellor or the master of the rolls, (*m*) with-

Court of chancery to make orders on petition, without bill, for application of trust moneys and administration of trust.

Trusts, *Ib.* 135. But the court will not make the rule too stringent in cases of this kind where trustees have acted *bond fide*. *Re Wyll's Trusts*, 28 Beav. 458; *Re Brockleaby*, 29 Beav. 652, accord. If a trustee files a bill in a case in which he ought to have paid the fund into court under this act, he will be allowed only such costs as he would have been entitled to under the act. *Wells v. Malbon*, 31

Beav. 48; *Re Allen's Will*, Kay, App. 51; *Re Dalton*, 1 De G., M. & G. 265.

(*l*) Where executors paid money into court to an account headed "In the matter of the trusts of the will of S. J.," the court held that the account was too general to enable it to act under this statute. *In re Joseph's Will*, 11 Beav. 625.

(*m*) In all cases where the trust fund does not exceed three hundred pounds

[1902] [1908]

out bill, by such party or parties, as to the court shall appear to be competent and necessary in that behalf, and service of such petition shall be made upon such person or persons as the court shall see fit and direct; and every order made upon any such petition shall have the same authority and effect, and shall be enforced and subject to rehearing and appeal, in the same manner as if the same had been made in a suit regularly instituted in the court; and if it shall appear that any such trust funds cannot be safely distributed without the institution of one or more suit or suits, the lord chancellor or master of the rolls may direct any such suit or suits to be instituted."

IV. "The lord chancellor, with the assistance of the master of the rolls or one of the vice chancellors, shall have power and is hereby authorized to make such orders as from time to time shall seem necessary for better carrying the provisions of this act into effect." (n)

Lord chancellor, with master of the rolls, &c. may make general orders.

If an executor, desirous of acting under this statute, pays into court too large a sum, as for instance where after paying a residue he discovers that there are debts still due from the estate, he will have a right to get back the excess; and where in a case of this description application was made by an executor, with the consent of the parties beneficially \* interested, for repayment of *the whole fund*, Knight Bruce V. C. ordered the fund to be paid out to the executor, upon his undertaking to administer it according to the trusts of the will. (o)

Remedy for executor who has paid too large a sum into court.

By stat. 12 & 13 Vict. c. 74 (being an extension of the statute last cited), if it should appear to the court upon petition that any moneys, annuities, stocks, or securities are vested in any persons as trustees, executors, or administrators, or otherwise within the meaning of stat. 10 & 11 Vict. c. 96, and that the major part of such persons are desirous of transferring, &c. the same to the accountant general under the provisions of that act, but that for any reason the concurrence of the other or others of them cannot

12 & 13 Vict. c. 74. Court may upon application by majority of trustees order payments or transfer into court.

cash or three hundred pounds stock, the application should be made in chambers. Cons. Orders, xxxv. 1. For proceedings under the act generally, see Order xli. 1-9.

(o) Ex parte Tournay, 3 De G. & Sm. 677. The reader is referred to Morgan's Chancery Acts and Orders for the numerous cases which have been decided upon this statute.

(n) *Supra*, note (m).

be had, the court may order such transfer, &c. to be made by the major part of such persons without the concurrence of the rest; and where any such funds shall be deposited with any banker, broker, or other depositary, the court may make such order for the payment of such funds to the major part of such trustees, executors, &c. for the purpose of being paid to the accountant general as to the court shall seem meet, and all payments so made shall be as valid as if they had been made on the authority of all the persons entitled to the fund.

By stat. 13 & 14 Vict. c. 35, s. 1, it is enacted, "That it shall  
 13 & 14  
 Vict. c. 35,  
 sect. 1.  
 Executors  
 may con-  
 cur in spe-  
 cial case:  
 be lawful for persons interested, or claiming to be inter-  
 ested, in any question cognizable in the court of chancery  
 as to the construction of any act of parliament, will,  
 deed, or other instrument in writing, or any article,  
 clause, matter, or thing therein contained, or as to the  
 title, or evidence of title, to any real or personal estate contracted  
 to be sold or otherwise dealt with, or as to the parties to, or the form  
 of any deed or instrument for carrying any such contract into  
 effect, or as to any other matter falling within the original juris-  
 diction of the said court as a court of equity, or made \*subject to  
 the jurisdiction or authority of the said court by any statute not  
 being one of the statutes relating to bankrupts, and including  
 among such persons all lunatics, married women and infants, in  
 the manner and under the restrictions hereinafter contained, to  
 concur in stating such questions in the form of a special case for  
 the opinion of the said court; and it shall also be lawful for all  
 executors, administrators, and trustees to concur in such case."

Sect. 15. "That every executor, administrator, trustee, or other  
 shall be in-  
 demnified  
 by declara-  
 tion in de-  
 cree.  
 persons making any payment, or doing any act in con-  
 formity with the declaration contained in any decree  
 made upon a special case, shall in all respects be as fully  
 and effectually protected and indemnified by such de-  
 claration, as if such payment had been made or act done under or  
 in pursuance of the express order of the said court, made in a suit  
 between the same parties instituted by bill, save only as to any  
 rights or claims of any person in respect of matters not deter-  
 mined by such declaration."

If the executor finds the affairs of the testator so complicated as  
 13 & 14  
 Vict. c. 35,  
 s. 19.  
 to render the administering of the estate unsafe, he may  
 obtain a decree against any one or more of the legatees

or next of kin, for the administration of the estate; (*p*) or he may avail himself of the 19th section of the statute last cited, whereby it is enacted, "that it shall be lawful for the said court, upon the application of the executors or administrators of any deceased person, by order to be made upon motion or petition of course, (*q*) and to be in the form or to the effect set forth in the schedule thereto, with such variations as circumstances may require, to refer it to one of the masters (*r*) of the said court, to take an account of the debts and liabilities affecting the personal estate of such deceased \* person, and to report thereon. Provided, always, that no such order shall be made until the expiration of one year next after the death of such deceased person, (*s*) or pending any proceedings to administer the estate of such person, and that in case at any time after the making of such order, any decree or order for administering the estate of such deceased person shall be made, it shall be lawful for the said court, by such decree or order, to stay or suspend the proceedings under such order of course, on such terms and conditions, if any, as to the said court shall seem just."

Executors,  
&c. may  
apply to  
the court  
for an  
order to  
take ac-  
count of  
debts and  
liabilities.

The three following sections of this act prescribe the mode of taking objection to the master's report, by way of motion to the court; the proceedings of the court on such motion; and direct

(*p*) 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, sect. 42, rule 6.

(*q*) Or by a judge at chambers upon summons. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 14.

(*r*) The accounts under this enactment must now be taken by the master of the rolls or one of the vice chancellors. See 15 & 16 Vict. c. 80, sect. 36. And the form of the order in the schedule must be varied accordingly.

(*s*) By 23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 14, the order may be made immediately after probate granted. And by the same section, "After any such order shall have been made, the said court or judge may, on the application of the executors or administrators, by motion or summons, restrain or suspend, until the account directed by such order shall have been taken, any proceedings at law against such executors or administrators by any person having, or claiming to have, any demand upon the

estate of the deceased, by reason of any debt or liability due from the estate of the deceased, upon such notice and terms and conditions (if any) as to the said court or judge shall seem just; and the judge, in taking an account of debts and liabilities pursuant to any such order shall, on the application of the executors or administrators, be at liberty to direct that the particulars only of any claim or claims which may be brought in pursuance to any such order shall be certified by his chief clerk, without any adjudication thereon; and any notices for creditors to come in which may be published in pursuance of any such order shall have the same force and effect as if such notices had been given by the executors or administrators in pursuance of the 29th section of 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35."



that if debts or certain liabilities are allowed by the court, and are not paid or provided for by appropriation, to the satisfaction of the person who has established such liability, an order may be made by the court for payment of accounts.

Section 23. "In case any contingent liability shall be allowed by the said report, or by the said court, it shall be \*lawful for the said court by order, to be made upon the application of the executors or administrators, by motion or petition, on notice to the person who may have established such contingent liability, to order such sum of money, part of the estate of the deceased person, as to the said court shall seem just, to be set apart and appropriated for answering such contingent liability, and to give such directions as the said court shall think fit touching the payment of such sum of money into court, and the investment thereof, and the payment, application, or accumulation of the interest or dividends thereof in the mean time and until the same shall be required to answer such liability, and when such liability shall be ascertained or determined, to give such directions as to the payment of such sums out of court as the said court shall deem right. Provided, always, that no order to be made as aforesaid shall in any manner bind the assets so appropriated as against the persons entitled to the estate of the deceased subject to the contingent liability; and any person interested in such appropriate assets may apply to the court touching the same, as he may be advised."

Sect. 24. "After the filing of such report as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the said court, upon the application of the executors or administrators of the deceased, by order, to be made on motion, to restrain by injunction any proceedings at law against them by any person having or claiming to have any demand upon the estate of the deceased by reason of any debt or liability, other than the persons who may have established contingent liabilities under the said order, for which no appropriation may have been made."

Sect. 25. "In case no debt or liability, or no debt or liability other than a contingent liability, shall have been allowed as aforesaid, or in case any debt or liability other than as aforesaid, shall have been allowed as aforesaid, then after the same shall have been paid or provided for by appropriation as aforesaid, all payments made by the executors or

administrators or any of them, on account of \*the estate of the deceased person, and all dispositions of such assets made by them or any of them on account of such estate, shall, as against all persons having or claiming to have any demand upon such estate, by reason of any debt or liability, other than persons who may have established under the said order any contingent liability for which no such appropriation as aforesaid may have been made, be as good and effectual as if the same had been made under a decree of the said court. Provided, always, that nothing herein contained shall in any manner affect or prejudice the rights of any creditor or other person having any demand or claim upon the estate of the deceased, against any assets so paid or disposed of, or against the persons to whom such payment or disposition may have been made, or against any assets appropriated under the provisions of this act, and the appropriation of which, if made under a decree of the said court in a suit to which he was not a party, would not have been binding upon him."

By 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 29, it is enacted, that "where an executor or administrator shall have given such or the like notices as in the opinion of the court in which such executor or administrator is sought to be charged, would have been given by the court of chancery in an administration suit, (t) for creditors and others to send in to the executor or administrator their claims against the estate of the testator or intestate, such executor or administrator shall, at the expiration of the time named in the said notices or the last of the said notices for sending in such claims, be at liberty to distribute the assets of the testator or intestate, or any part thereof, (t<sup>1</sup>) amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard to the claims of which such executor or administrator has then notice, and shall not be liable for the assets or any part thereof so distributed to any person of whose claim such executor or administrator shall not have had notice at the time of distribution of the said assets or a part thereof, as \*the case may be; but nothing in the present act contained shall prej-

22 & 23  
Vict. c. 35,  
s. 29.  
Executors,  
&c. may  
distribute  
assets after  
due notice  
to credit-  
ors and  
others to  
send in  
claims.

(t) See Cons. Orders, xxxv. 35-37.

(t<sup>1</sup>) [When it shall be made to appear to any probate court, in Massachusetts, that a partial distribution of the personal property of any estate in process of set-

tlement therein, can be made to those entitled to it, without detriment to the estate, the court may, after notice, order such partial distribution to be made. St. Mass. 1873, c. 224, § 2.]

udice the right of any creditor or claimant to follow the assets or any part thereof into the hands of the person or persons who may have received the same respectively." (<sup>2</sup>)

And by section 30 of the last cited act, it is provided, that "any trustee, executor, or administrator shall be at liberty without the institution of a suit, to apply by petition to any judge of the high court of chancery, or by summons upon a written statement to any such judge at chambers, for the opinion, advice, or direction of such judge on any question respecting the management or administration of the trust property or the assets of any testator or intestate, such application to be served upon, or the hearing thereof to be attended by, all persons interested in such application, or such of them as the said judge shall think expedient; and the trustee, executor, or administrator acting upon the opinion, advice, or direction given by the said judge shall be deemed, so far as regards his own responsibility, to have discharged his duty as such trustee, executor, or administrator in the subject-matter of the said application. . . Provided, nevertheless, that this act shall not extend to indemnify any trustee, executor, or administrator in respect of any act done in accordance with such opinion, advice,

(<sup>2</sup>) [In Massachusetts, if the executor or administrator who has given the prescribed notice of his appointment, does not within one year thereafter have notice of demands against the estate of the deceased which will authorize him to represent the estate insolvent, he may, after the expiration of said year, proceed to pay the debts due from the estate; and he shall not be personally liable to any creditor in consequence of any such payments made before notice of his demand. Genl. Sts. of Mass. c. 97, § 17. On proving such payments to the extent of the whole of the assets, he is to be discharged. § 18. As to the mode in which an executor or administrator is to proceed when he has not paid away the entire assets in discharge of claims of which he has notice within the year, and he has notice of other claims made upon the estate, see § 19. If an administrator has, within a year after his appointment, paid a claim against

the estate of his intestate, in the honest belief that the estate was solvent, and the estate has been subsequently declared insolvent, and after due proceedings a dividend has been ordered to be paid from all the assets then available, the administrator may at once commence an action to recover back the excess so paid, above the amount of the dividend, although there may be some farther assets which may at some future time be realized; and the statute of limitations will begin to run against the claim of the administrator from the date when the dividend was ordered. *Richards v. Nightingale*, 9 Allen, 149. See, also, to the same effect, *Heard v. Drake*, 4 Gray, 514; *Walker v. Hill*, 17 Mass. 380; *Walker v. Bradley*, 3 Pick. 261; *Bliss v. Lee*, 17 Pick. 83; *ante*, 1036, note (*h*), 1862, note (*r*<sup>2</sup>); *Clark v. Williams*, 70 N. Car. 679. But see *Colegrove v. Robinson*, 11 Met. 238.]

or direction as aforesaid, if such trustee, executor, or administrator shall have been guilty of any fraud, or wilful concealment or misrepresentation in obtaining such opinion, advice, or direction; and the costs of such application as aforesaid shall be in the discretion of the judge to whom the said application shall be made." (*t*<sup>8</sup>)

23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 9, prescribes the form of applying for advice of the judge under the above section. (*u*)

It has been held that the court will not, upon a petition presented by a trustee or executor under this enactment, construe an instrument or make any order affecting the rights of parties. Such petitions should relate only to the \*management and administration of the trust property in the manner which will be most for the advantage of the parties beneficially interested. (*x*)

There has already been occasion to show (*y*) that a suit in equity, commenced by the deceased, may be continued on the part of his executor or administrator, by an order Order of revivor. to revive merely.

In case of a suit by co-executors, the proceedings do not abate by the death of one of them; because the whole of his interest survives to the others. The suit may, therefore, be continued by them, without revivor. (*z*) So where one of the plaintiffs in a

(*t*<sup>8</sup>) [Executors and administrators, by bill in the nature of a bill of interpleader, may take the advice of a court of equity upon questions connected with the discharge of their duties, as such executors and administrators; but the interposition of the court in such cases is discretionary, and will not be exercised except in matters of importance. *Crosby v. Mason*, 32 Conn. 482; *Wheeler v. Perry*, 18 N. H. 307; *Goodhue v. Clark*, 37 N. H. 525; *Annin v. Vandoren*, 14 N. J. Eq. 135; *Deering v. Tucker*, 55 Maine, 284; *Woodruff v. Cook*, 47 Barb. 304; *Kearney v. Maccomb*, 1 C. E. Green, 189; *Treadwell v. Cordis*, 5 Gray, 341; *Hooper v. Hooper*, 9 Cush. 122, 127; *Drury v. Natick*, 10 Allen, 169, 175; *Andrews v. Bishop*, 5 Allen, 430; *Dimmock v. Bixby*, 20 Pick. 368, 374; *Horah v. Horah*, 1 Wins. (N. Car.) Eq. 107. For a case where an administrator was permitted to maintain a

bill for instructions, see *Stevens v. Warren*, 101 Mass. 564, 565. An administrator cannot resort to a court of equity as a matter of course to obtain instructions in reference to the settlement of his intestate's estate, but only where there are special circumstances involved in such settlement. *McNiell v. McNiel*, 36 Ala. 109; *Park v. Park*, 36 Ala. 132; *Beers v. Strohecker*, 21 Geo. 442; *Pitkin v. Pitkin*, 7 Conn. 315.]

(*u*) See, also, Orders of 20th March, 1860.

(*x*) *Re Lorenz*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 401, per *Kindersley V. C.* See, also, *Re Hooper's Will*, 7 Jur. N. S. 595.

(*y*) *Ante*, 890; stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 52. See the cases on this section collected in *Morgan's Chancery Acts and Orders*, p. 219. See, also, *Cons. Orders*, xxxii.

(*z*) *Toller*, 497.

creditor's suit dies, his death does not abate the suit; (a) though if he died after the decree, his personal representative may obtain an order to revive. (b)

But, generally, where one of several plaintiffs dies, unless his interest survives to the others, the suit wholly abates; (c) and it may be revived by his representative, either in conjunction with them, or separately, but making them parties. So one of the survivors may, if the others refuse to join, file a bill of revivor alone, making the others, and the representatives of the deceased, defendants.

By 20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 76, the revocation of a temporary  
20 & 21 \* grant of administration is not to prejudice any actions  
Vict. c. 77, or suits already commenced by or against an administrator  
s. 76. so appointed.

Suit by one  
executor  
against  
another.

Although an executor cannot bring any action at law against a co-executor, (d) yet, in a court of equity, one executor may sue another. (e) If one of the executors

(a) *Boddy v. Kent*, 1 Meriv. 364. As to death of a co-plaintiff residuary legatee since 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 42, rule 1, see *Hinde v. Morton*, 2 Hemm. & M. 368; post, 2011, note (v).

(b) *Burney v. Morgan*, 1 Sim. & Stu. 358. *Quere*, if before a decree. *Ib.* After a decree in a creditor's suit and death of the plaintiff without leaving a personal representative, the court will not allow the proceedings to continue upon the motion of the defendants, the accounting parties, though the master of the rolls said, that if a creditor were to apply, he would allow him to carry on the suit instituted for his benefit, since after decree all creditors are as plaintiffs. *Johnson v. Hammersley*, 24 Beav. 498.

(c) *Cave v. Cork*, 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 130.

(d) *Ante*, 956.

(e) *Allen v. Story*, Toth. 150; *Peake v. Ledger*, 8 Hare, 313; [*Case's Appeal*, 35 Conn. 117. But a court of equity will not interfere between co-executors, unless it appears to be imperatively required for the purposes of justice. *Rogers v. Moor*, 1 Root, 472; *Beach v. Natar*, 9 Conn. 182; *Stiver v. Stiver*, 8 Ohio, 217; *Wurts v.*

*Jenkins*, 11 Barb. 546. One executor in Maryland cannot maintain a bill in equity against his co-executor to compel him to account for and pay over to him certain claims alleged to be due from the defendant, to the estate of their testator. *Beall v. Hilliary*, 1 Md. 186. See *Lawrence v. Lawrence*, 6 Litt. (Ky.) 123. But it was held in *Wood v. Brown*, 34 N. Y. 337, that one executor may maintain a suit in equity to call his co-executor to account. The creditors, legatees, and next of kin are not necessary parties, except in case of a final accounting. So one executor may maintain a suit against his co-executor to revive a suit against such co-executor for foreclosure of a mortgage commenced by the testator in his lifetime. *McGregor v. McGregor*, 35 N. Y. 218. Where one of two administrators of an estate directed a debtor thereof to retain the money due from him, and not to pay it to the other administrator, and the debtor complied with such direction, the other administrator brought an action to recover the debt, in which the co-administrator, refusing to join as co-plaintiff, was made defendant. It was thereupon held that the debtor could not set up the direc-

of a mortgagee be himself the mortgagor, the bill by the co-executors should not be for a foreclosure, but for a sale. (*f*)

There has already been occasion to show that an executor may file a bill before probate. (*g*) And so may an administrator before he has taken out letters of administration. (*h*) And the subsequent probate or letters will make the bill a good one, if obtained at any time before hearing. (*i*) Nevertheless, the bill must allege that the executor or administrator has obtained probate or letters. (*k*) So, an executor, bringing a *scire facias* to revive a decree, must show that he has proved the will. (*l*) However, it is sufficient for the plaintiff to allege by the bill that he has duly proved the will or taken out administration, without mentioning in what court. (*m*)

If there are several executors, they must all sue, though one of them be an infant. (*n*) But where one executor of several has alone proved, it has been decided that he may sue without making the other executors parties, although they have not renounced. (*o*)

\* A bill is not demurrable, on the ground that the legatees of a testator join with the executor in suing for a debt due to his estate. (*p*)

By stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 42, rule 6, it is enacted that "any executor, administrator, or trustee may obtain a decree against any one legatee, next of kin, or *cestui que trust* for the administration of the estate or the execution of the trusts."

tion not to pay as a bar to the action. The administrator who gave it did so in violation of his duty, and the administrator suing was entitled to bring the action and join the other as defendant. *Strever v. Feltman*, 1 Thomp. & C. (N. Y.) 277.]

(*f*) *Lucas v. Seale*, 2 Atk. 56.

(*g*) *Ante*, 308.

(*h*) *Ante*, 405.

(*i*) *Ante*, 308. See *Simons v. Milman*, 2 Sim. 241.

(*k*) *Humphreys v. Ingledon*, 1 P. Wms. 753; *S. C. Dick*. 38; [*Trapnall v. Burton*, 24 Ark. 371; *Pelletreau v. Rathbone*, 1 N. J. Eq. 331.]

(*l*) *Comber's case*, 1 P. Wms. 766.

(*m*) 1 P. Wms. 753; *Stone v. Baker*, 1 P. Wms. 753 (in a note by the reporter, who adds a *quære*, whether there is any dif-

ference, as to this point, between an administration and an executorship). But see *Jossaume v. Abbott*, 15 Sim. 127. [As to the facts necessary to be set forth in a bill to show that the plaintiff has a right to sue as executor, or that the defendant is liable as such, see *Evans v. Evans*, 23 N. J. Eq. 71.]

(*n*) 16 Vin. Abr. 251, tit. Parties, B. pl. 20.

(*o*) *Davies v. Williams*, 1 Sim. 5. In this case the vice chancellor is reported to have said that where one executor has alone proved, he may sue in equity, as well as at law, without naming the others as parties. But see *ante*, 1867, and *Kilby v. Stanton*, 2 Y. & Jerv. 77.

(*p*) *Rhodes v. Warburton*, 6 Sim. 617.

A plea that the plaintiff, who entitles himself as executor or administrator, is not executor or administrator, though a negative plea, is good in abatement of the suit. (*q*) So where a plaintiff entitled himself as administrator of an intestate, and the defendant pleaded that the supposed intestate was living, the plea was allowed. (*r*) But an affirmative plea, that the probate is insufficiently stamped, has been held bad; for this defence may be shown under a plea that the plaintiff is not executor. (*s*)

In *Moons v. Bernales*, (*t*) it was held that production by a plaintiff, suing as administrator to A., of the letters of administration, was not *prima facie* evidence of A.'s death, (*u*) but at the hearing, liberty was given to the plaintiff to exhibit interrogatories to prove the death, and the cause permitted to stand over for that purpose. (*x*)

Where a bill was brought to be relieved touching a debt due to the plaintiff as executor, the defendant pleaded an outlawry. \* outlawry of the plaintiff in bar; but the plea was overruled, the suit being *in auter droit*. (*y*)

The statute of limitations may be set up in resistance to proceedings by way of revivor, if the executor or administrator does not proceed within six years after the abatement of a suit, provided there has been no decree; (*z*) for a decree being in the nature of a judgment, the statute of limitations cannot be applied to it. (*a*) If an executor or administrator, trustee for an infant, neglects to sue within six years, the statute of limitations shall bind the infant. (*b*)

(*q*) *Winn v. Fletcher*, 1 Vern. 473. Proof of the death is now required, and Mitf. Pl. 230, 4th ed.; *Fry v. Richardson*, 10 Sim. 475; *Cooke v. Gittings*, 21 Beav. 497; [*Clark v. Pishon*, 31 Maine, 503.] that the testator was the party in the cause. *Clayton v. Gresham*, 10 Ves. 289.

(*r*) *Ord v. Huddleston*, Dick. 510; S. C. See *ante*, 235.

(*s*) *Roberts v. Madocks*, 16 Sim. 55. Mitf. Pl. 272, 273, 4th ed.

(*t*) 1 Russ. 301.

(*u*) See *ante*, 561.

(*x*) See *Hood v. Pimm*, 4 Sim. 101. It may here be observed, that where money is ordered to be paid to A. or his representatives (the constant course upon payment to creditors) the mere production of the probate is not sufficient to enable the representative to obtain payment. (*y*) *Killegrew v. Killegrew*, 1 Vern. 168.

(*z*) *Hollingshead's case*, 1 P. Wms. 742; Mitf. Pl. 272, 273, 4th ed.

(*a*) *Supra*, note (*z*). [The balance of a claim proved and allowed, under a commission of insolvency, against the estate of a deceased insolvent person, on which a dividend has been paid, is not within the statute of limitations. *Bancroft v. Andrews*, 6 Cush. 493, 495.]

(*b*) *Wych v. East India Company*, 3 P. Wms. 309.

As to set-off; no rule is better established than that demands due in different rights cannot be set off against each other. Therefore, a debt due from an executor cannot <sup>set-off.</sup> be set off against a debt due to his testator. Accordingly, where the plaintiff was residuary legatee and surviving executrix of her husband, to whom A. and a bankrupt had given a joint bond, the other obligor being dead, and the plaintiff was indebted upon her private account to the bankrupt, Lord Hardwicke refused an injunction to a suit upon the bond, saying, that the debts were in different rights, and that there was no mutual credit. (c)

But it has already (d) been pointed out that a court of equity, in regulating the right of set-off, will regard a debt or demand as due in the right of him who is beneficially entitled to it.

It has appeared above (e) that an executor or administrator availing himself of the stat. 13 & 14 Vict. c. 35, s. 19, may, after the order shall have been made, apply to the court to restrain or suspend, until the account directed by \*such order shall have been taken, any proceedings at law against him by claimants on the estate of the deceased. Likewise, when the court has pronounced a decree (or made an order under stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86 (f)), for an account and payment of debts or legacies, under which all creditors or legatees may claim, the executor or administrator may obtain an injunction to restrain proceedings by a separate creditor or legatee, either at law or equity; as the just administration of the assets would be greatly embarrassed by such proceeding. (g)

When an injunction can be obtained in a creditor's suit to restrain proceedings at law, &c.

So the court will restrain a person, who is in the character of a creditor, from proceeding at law, although he sues for unascertained damages, as upon breaches of a covenant to repair. (h)

(c) *Bishop v. Church*, 3 Atk. 691. See also, *Moneypenny v. Bristow*, 2 Russ. & My. 117, and *ante*, 1304.

(d) *Ante*, 1878, 1879.

(e) *Ante*, 1906, note (s.) See, also, stat. 13 & 14 Vict. c. 35, s. 24, *ante*, 1907.

(f) See *post*, 2007, bk. II. ch. II.

(g) *Mitf. Pl.* 168, 4th ed.; *Drewry v. Thacker*, 3 Swanst. 541, 544; *Clarke v. Ormonde*, Jacob, 123, 124; *Hayward v. Constable*, 3 Y. & Coll. 43; *Whitaker v.*

*Wright*, 2 Hare, 310; [*Pennell v. Roy*, 3 De G., M. & G. (Am. ed.) 126, note (1) and cases cited; *Udike v. Doyle*, 7 R. I. 460; *Thompson v. Brown*, 4 John. Ch. 642; *Hazen v. Durling*, 1 Green Ch. 138.] So, after an administration order, a legatee will be restrained from proceeding to recover his legacy in the county court. *Ratcliffe v. Winch*, 16 Beav. 576.

(h) *Sutton v. Mashiter*, 2 Sim. 513.



And the rule extends to proceedings in Scotland, or any foreign country. (*i*)

Formerly the course was for the executor to file a bill, against the creditor suing at law, to obtain the injunction. However, according to the modern practice, it is unnecessary to file a separate bill for that purpose, but an injunction may be applied for, in the existing suit, by a motion on behalf of the plaintiff, or the defendant, the executor or administrator, that the creditor may be restrained from \*proceeding at law, and be directed to come in and prove his debt with the other creditors of the testator or intestate. (*k*)

It must be observed, however, that courts of equity will not restrain proceedings of creditors at law against executors to obtain payment of debts, merely on the bill filed, *until there is a decree* (or an administration order, which has the effect of a decree). (*l*) But from the moment of the decree, the court proceeds on the ground that the decree is a judgment in favor of all the creditors, (*m*) and that they ought all to be paid according to their priorities as they then stand; and that the court cannot execute its own decree, if it permits courts of law to alter the course of payment. (*n*) The court, however, cannot interfere unless there is in existence a decree under which the creditor has a *present right* to go in and prove his debt. (*o*)

(*i*) *Graham v. Maxwell*, 1 Mac. & G. 320; *Baillie v. Baillie*, L. R. 5 Eq. Cas. 71; *Maclaren v. Stainton*, 16 Beav. 279. 175.]

In the case last cited, a Scotch corporation, trading in England, and having warehouses and goods, and an office there, was restrained from proceeding, in Scotland, against the testator's Scotch assets. But this decision was reserved in the house of lords (*dissentiente* Lord St. Leonards) upon the ground that as the Scotch corporation had not come in under the administration decree, they were not precluded from proceeding against the Scotch assets of the testator in the courts of that country, and that the circumstance of their having property and an agent in England did not affect their rights in this respect.

5 H. L. Cas. 416. [See *Pennell v. Roy*, 3 De G., M. & G. (Am. ed.) 126, note (1); 2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1614, 1615; *Hope v. Carnegie*, L. R. 1 Ch. App. 320; *Baillie v. Baillie*, L. R. 5 Eq. Cas. 175.]

(*k*) *Paxton v. Douglas*, 8 Ves. 520; *Perry v. Phelps*, 10 Ves. 39, 40. A legatee may make the application. *Clarke v. Ormonde, Jacob*, 122.

(*l*) *Rush v. Higgs*, 4 Ves. 638, and note (*a*); *Teague v. Richards*, 11 Sim. 46.

(*m*) *Pennell v. Roy*, 3 De G., M. & G. 137, 138, by Lord Justice Turner.

(*n*) *Largan v. Bowen*, 1 Sch. & Lef. 299.

(*o*) *Rankin v. Harwood*, 2 Phill. C. C. 22; 5 Hare, 215. The court of equity restrains the proceedings at law only on the principle that the creditor is enabled to bring into equity all his legal rights. *Whitaker v. Wright*, 2 Hare, 310. Where a creditor had recovered judgment against the testator and sued out a *fi. fa.* thereon in his lifetime, and on the day after his death

It is obvious, that, by means of this practice, an executor or administrator may compel the creditors of the deceased to take an equal distribution of the assets, (*o*<sup>1</sup>) and courts of equity, accordingly, of late years allowed, for this purpose, friendly bills to be filed against executors or administrators, *i. e.* suits by them in the name of a creditor against themselves. \* The principle on which this sort of suit was allowed, was that as executors have great powers of preference at law, (*p*) the courts did not disapprove of their coming in the shape of an application by a creditor to give a judgment to all the creditors, and to secure a distribution of the assets without preference to any. (*q*) Considerable incon-

placed the writ in the sheriff's hands an injunction to restrain execution was refused, on the ground that the creditor had acquired a right to the goods by virtue of the writ of *fi. fa.*, from the tests of the writ (see *post*, bk. 11. ch. 1.), and therefore paramount to the right of the executor. *Ran-kin v. Harwood*, 5 Hare, 215. See, also, *Marriage v. Skiggs*, 4 De G. & J. 4; *Fowler v. Roberts*, 2 Giff. 226. [When the estate has been represented to be insolvent, the court of chancery will enjoin an execution subsequently sued out upon a judgment against an executor or administrator, and it is no answer to a bill to enjoin such execution, that the representation of insolvency was obtained by fraud. *Neibert v. Withers*, 1 Sm. & M. Ch. 598.]

(*o*<sup>1</sup>) [This result is secured in Massachusetts by the appointment of commissioners of insolvency, or by the action of the court itself in examining and determining claims and their amount, when it appears to the probate court from the representation of an executor or administrator, that the estate of the deceased will probably be insufficient for the payment of his debts. *Genl. Sts. c. 99, § 2*. The method of proceeding appears in the other sections of this chapter (99), and in *Stats. Mass. 1863, c. 217, 1868, c. 327, 1873, c. 252*; *Aiken v. Morse*, 104 Mass. 277. The usual course is for the executor or administrator to exhibit a list of debts, which have come to his knowledge or which he has reason to believe are due from the deceased; and

this statement is verified by his oath. If the amount of those debts exceeds the value of the estate, and if the judge has no reason to doubt the truth of the statement, he awards the commission; *Jackson J. in Walker v. Hill*, 17 Mass. 386; or himself examines and determines their validity and amount under st. 1873, c. 252. No action shall be maintained against an executor or administrator after an estate is represented insolvent, unless for a demand entitled to a preference and which would not be affected by the insolvency of the estate, or unless the assets prove more than sufficient to pay all the debts allowed by the commissioners. If the estate is represented insolvent while an action is pending for any demand that is not entitled to such preference, the action may be discontinued without payment of costs; or, if the demand is disputed, the action may be tried and determined and judgment rendered thereon as in an action at law prosecuted in the usual manner except that no execution shall be awarded against the executor or administrator for a debt found due to the claimant; or the action may be continued without costs until it appears whether the estate is insolvent, and if not insolvent the plaintiff may prosecute the action as if no such representation had been made. *Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 99, § 20.*]

(*p*) See *ante*, 1032 *et seq.*

(*q*) *Gilpin v. Lady Southampton*, 18 Ves. 469. In *Brady v. Sheil*, 1 Campb. 147, it was stated on behalf of the defend-

venience, however, arose from the practice as it at first prevailed; the executor frequently applying for the purpose, not of preventing a preference, but of preventing the payment of any creditor, and keeping the assets himself. Lord Eldon, therefore, introduced the rule, that, where the answer does not state what the assets are, the executor shall be called upon to state them by affidavit, so as to enable the court, if, in its discretion, it should think fit, to order him to pay in the balance in his hands. (r)

\*The plaintiff at law is entitled, upon the injunction being granted, to have his costs of the action paid by the executor, up to the time when he had notice of the decree. (s) And if the cred-

ant, an executor, that at a meeting of creditors of a deceased insolvent, called by the executor, they agreed to a ratable distribution, on the faith of which he executed a deed of assignment of all the assets which had come to his hands for the benefit of the creditors. And Sir James Mansfield seemed to think that this, if made out by evidence, would be a good defence. And the learned judge said that he wished it were more generally known (for he believed that lawyers in the court of K. B. were not aware of it) that through the medium of a court of equity, the creditors of a deceased insolvent may always be compelled to take an equal distribution of the assets. It was only necessary for a friendly bill to be filed against the executor or administrator, to account; after which the chancellor would enjoin any of the creditors from proceeding at law. It would appear from the expressions of Lawrence J. in *Meux v. Howell*, 4 East, 10, that the same object might be gained by the executor confessing a judgment to a trustee, to a sufficient amount to cover the assets, and afterwards pleading this judgment to an action by a litigious creditor. But it is clear, from the subsequent decision of *Tolputt v. Wells*, 1 M. & Sel. 395, that such a course is impracticable; for it was held in that case, that such a judgment as that proposed could not be pleaded in bar to the action. See *ante*, 1035.

(r) *Gilpin v. Lady Southampton*, 18

[1917]

*Ves.* 469; *Paxton v. Douglas*, 8 *Ves.* 520; *Drewry v. Thacker*, 3 *Swanst.* 546; *Clarke v. Ormonde*, Jacob, 125; *Vernon v. Thellusson*, 1 *Phill. C. C.* 466, 472. But see *Ratcliffe v. Winch*, 16 *Beav.* 576, 577. In *Macrae v. Smith*, 2 *K. & Johns.* 411, the application was to stay a creditor's suit, because on a decree obtained in an administration suit which had been subsequently instituted by two of the executors against the third, Wood V. C. was of the opinion that a decree obtained by an executor for administration against his co-executors was a decree for the benefit of all the creditors of the testator, and added that as, upon an application for an injunction to stay proceedings at law by a creditor, the court would order the executor to make an affidavit of the amount of assets in his possession, and to pay the balance into court, he could not see why a creditor in equity was not entitled to the same relief.

(s) *Dyer v. Kearsley*, 2 *Meriv.* 483, note to *Terrewest v. Featherby*; *Paxton v. Douglas*, 8 *Ves.* 520; *Ratcliffe v. Winch*, 16 *Beav.* 576. In *Drewry v. Thacker*, 3 *Swanst.* 541, Lord Eldon said that the usual form in which the order for the injunction was drawn (i. e. "on payment of costs") was improper; inasmuch as the parties entitled to the injunction, if they were required to pay costs as a preliminary, might, from the situation of the assets, be unable to obtain it in time.

itor commences his action at law before bill filed, and then discontinues it, and comes in under the decree, he will be entitled to prove his costs at law, in addition to his debt. (t) He is also, it should seem, entitled to the costs of the motion to restrain him from suing at law. (u) But he shall not be allowed the costs of further proceedings at law after actual notice of the decree, (x) nor in such case his costs of the motion to restrain his proceedings. (y) If, however, the executor take any steps in the action after the \* plaintiff at law has had notice of the decree, the latter will be allowed all his costs at law and also those of the motion for the injunction. (z)

With respect to the time within which the injunction should be applied for, it was observed by Lord Lyndhurst, (a) that any delay in the application before judgment will, in most cases, properly resolve itself into a mere question of costs.

If, after a decree to account, the executor permits the creditors to proceed at law, he will be responsible; and if the creditors take property of the testator in execution, the executor will not be able to charge it to the estate; he may be allowed to stand in the place of those creditors against the estate, but he cannot do more. (b) But if the creditors obtain judgment after notice of a decree, and levy on the testator's property, the court of equity will compel them to restore it. (c)

Where the executor, in an action at law against him by a creditor of the deceased, has pleaded according to the truth of the case, he is clearly entitled, when the assets are taken from him and administered by the court of equity, to all the protection which that court can give him against any personal liability in respect of the judgment at law. (d)

(t) *Goate v. Fryer*, 3 Bro. C. C. 23; S. Lord Huntley, Jacob, 546; *Gardner v. C. 2 Cox*, 201. Garrett, 20 Beav. 469; notwithstanding the suit be in a foreign court. *Graham v.*

(u) *Jones v. Jones*, 5 Sim. 678. But see *Anon.* 2 Sim. & Stu. 424.

(x) *Paxton v. Douglas*, 8 Ves. 521; *Curre v. Bowyer*, 3 Madd. 456; *Jones v. Brain*, 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 170.

(y) 3 Madd. 456; 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 170. See *Hayward v. Constable*, 2 Y. & Coll. 43; *Moore v. Prior*, Ib. 375. He may be ordered to pay these costs, if, after bringing in his claim under the decree, he proceeds with his own suit; *Beauchamp v.*

*Maxwell*, 1 Mac. & G. 71. He may set off such costs against his costs incurred before notice of the decree. 20 Beav. 409.

(z) *Turner v. Connor*, 15 Sim. 630.

(a) *Rouse v. Jones*, 1 Phill. C. C. 464.

(b) *Clarke v. Ormonde*, Jacob, 122. So, too, if he pays a creditor. *Irby v. Irby*, 24 Beav. 525, 530.

(c) *Clarke v. Ormonde*, *supra*.

(d) *Gaunt v. Taylor*, 2 Hare, 413.

But with respect to restraining a creditor from proceeding, after a decree, upon a verdict or judgment recovered by him against an executor or administrator, the following distinction was taken by Lord Eldon in *Brook v. Skinner*. (e) That if the plaintiff at law has recovered judgment *de bonis testatoris*, the court will restrain the creditor from taking execution on such judgment; and that if he has recovered *de bonis propriis*, the court will not restrain the execution. \* So, in *Clarke v. Ormonde*, (f) his lordship said, that if a creditor has obtained judgment by which the executor is personally liable, *de bonis propriis*, the court had nothing to do with it; but if a judgment *de bonis testatoris*, it certainly would be a case for an injunction. And, in *Terrewest v. Featherby*, (g) where the executor pleaded, to an action on a bond, *non est factum* and *plene administravit*, upon both which pleas issue was joined, and a verdict entered for the plaintiff, his lordship refused an injunction, on a decree to account being obtained, observing, that the court had never so interfered upon a judgment *de bonis propriis*. And, in *Drewry v. Thacker*, (h) his lordship expressed strong doubts whether if judgment is recovered against an executor, under such circumstances that he cannot be permitted at law to dispute assets, he can obtain an injunction in a court of equity on an affidavit denying assets. And his lordship intimated his opinion, that there was no instance in the history of the court of chancery, where, after a judgment at law *de bonis testatoris et si non, de bonis propriis* of an executor, and execution issued, the proceedings at law had been restrained, on a decree subsequently obtained for administration of the assets. But, in *Lord v. Wormleighton*, (i) the executor pleaded, to an action by a creditor, *non-assumpsit*, a set-off, and *plene administravit*, and the verdict was against him on all these pleas. And, on a decree for the administration of the estate having been pronounced pending the action, Lord Eldon granted an injunction against the creditor, with a direction that the executor shall pay the costs at law, including the costs of the trial. And his lordship observed, that the case had been argued as if it was the case of a judgment *de bonis testatoris, et si non, de bonis propriis*; but that, in fact, it was a judgment for the damages *de bonis testatoris*, and for the costs only *de bonis*

(e) 5 Meriv. 481, note.

(f) Jacob, 124.

(g) 2 Meriv. 480.

(h) 3 Swanst. 542, 543, 547, 548.

(i) Jacob, 148.

*propriis*; and as to the plea of *non-assumpsit*,\* it was not a false plea; for that if the executor merely puts in issue the fact of the debt, that is not false; and his lordship added, that he was not sure that he had not a wrong notion of this at the time of deciding *Terrewest v. Featherby*. (k) So in *Fielden v. Fielden*, (l) after a decree for the administration of assets, the executor pleaded, to an action by a bond creditor, *non est factum* and *plene administravit*; after which, an application was made for an injunction to restrain the creditor from proceeding in the action. It was contended, on behalf of the creditor, that as the executor, instead of giving notice of the decree, had pleaded pleas which, upon being falsified, would entitle the plaintiff to judgment *de bonis testatoris*, *et si non, de bonis propriis*, the court would not restrain the creditor from proceeding at law; and *Terrewest v. Featherby*, and *Brook v. Skinner*, were cited; to which it was answered that the case of *Harrison v. Beccles*, before Lord Mansfield, (m) had decided that an executor who pleaded *plene administravit* was only liable to the extent of assets come to his hands: and Sir John Leach V. C. granted the injunction, observing, that he considered the law to be now settled according to the doctrine laid down by Lord Mansfield in *Harrison v. Beccles*. And his honor further observed, that since, in the present case, it appeared, from affidavits, that the executor had pleaded to the action merely for the purpose of getting time to apply to a court of equity, that court would have protected the executor, on that ground alone, according to the decision of Lord Eldon in *Dyer v. Kearsley*, (n) where the executor submitted to a judgment by default, merely with a view to apply to a court of equity. (o)

With great deference, it is submitted, that some of the above distinctions and observations appear to have been made without a perfectly clear apprehension of the nature\* and consequences of judgments at law against executors and administrators. In the first place, it must be observed, that there are but two cases in which the judgment against an executor is *de bonis testatoris, et si non, de bonis propriis*; viz, where he pleads a release to himself, or *ne unques executor*. (p) In all other cases, without respect to

(k) *Ubi supra*.

(l) 1 Sim. & Stu. 255.

(m) Cited 3 T. R. 688.

(n) 4 Meriv. 482.

(o) See, also, *Vernon v. Thellusson*, 1 Phill. C. C. 466, 470, 471, accord.

(p) 1 Saund. 335, 336 b, note to *Hancock v. Prowd*. See *infra*, 1975.

the plea being false or even false within the knowledge of the executor, the judgment for the debt or damages is *de bonis testatoris* merely, and, for the costs only, *de bonis testatoris, et si non, de bonis propriis*. (q) Hence it appears, that, upon a plea of *plene administravit*, the judgment can in no case be entered *de bonis testatoris, et si non, de bonis propriis*; and the case of *Harrison v. Beccles* does not go to authorize a judgment of that nature to the extent of the assets found by verdict to be in the hands of the executor, but decides merely that the judgment shall be entered *de bonis testatoris* for that sum only, and not for the whole debt or damages proved. But, secondly, every judgment at law recovered against an executor (except a judgment of assets *in futuro*), whether by default or upon demurrer, or upon verdict, whatever may be the nature of the plea, is conclusive on the executor that he has assets to satisfy it; (r) and, consequently, whether the judgment be *de bonis testatoris, et si non, de bonis propriis* or *de bonis testatoris* merely, the executor is equally compellable to pay the debt and costs, ultimately out of his own pocket, if the assets are deficient. (s) The course of \*compelling the payment is, indeed, different; for, on the former judgment, the creditor may have execution *de bonis propriis* forthwith, if no goods can be found by the sheriff which were the testator's; whereas, on the latter judgment, the creditor, unless the sheriff returns a *devastavit* to the *fieri facias*, must proceed by *scire fieri* inquiry, or by action of debt, suggesting a *devastavit*. (t)

Hence, it should seem to follow, that if the principle were, that a court of equity will not, by injunction, exclude creditors, proceeding at law, from the benefit of that due diligence by which they have established a right to be satisfied, either out of the assets of the deceased, or *de bonis propriis* of the representative, (u) that principle would apply to every case where the creditor has obtained a judgment at law of any kind other than a judgment of assets

(q) *Ib.* In some instances, indeed, the judgment is against the executor *de bonis propriis* in the first instance, and not *de bonis testatoris* at all; as where the executor is sued as assignee for rent accrued since the death of the testator, on a lease made to him; *ante*, 1758; or on his own promise in writing, upon good consideration, to pay the debt of the testator; *ante*, 1774; or, in debt on a judgment suggest-

ing a *devastavit*. See *infra*, 1987. But in these cases he is sued in his individual capacity, in the *debet et detinet*, and he cannot plead *plene administravit*.

(r) 1 Saund. 219 b, note to *Wheatley v. Lana*. See *infra*, 1985.

(s) 1 Saund. 337, note (1).

(t) See *infra*, 1984 *et seq.*

(u) See 3 Swanst. 547.

*quando acciderint* (except cases such as *Dyer v. Kearsley* and *Fielden v. Fielden*, where the executor has taken steps merely with a view to gain time to apply to the court of equity); because by judgment, in every case, the creditor has established a right to proceed against the goods of the representative, in the event of a deficiency of the goods of the deceased.

These observations appear in some degree justified by the late decision of *Lee v. Park*, (x) in which Lord Langdale M. R. refused a motion to restrain a creditor, after a decree in an administration suit, from issuing execution on a judgment obtained before the decree *de bonis testatoris, et si non*, as to the costs, *de bonis propriis*. For although his lordship grounded his refusal on the particular circumstances of the case, yet the learned judge, in giving his judgment, stated that he did not accede to the argument, that in cases of this nature the court pays no regard to the question whether the decree or judgment has priority in time, but considers only the quality of the judgment, so that the judgment being to recover *de bonis testatoris*, the executors are, of course, \* entitled to restrain the judgment creditors from issuing execution. And his lordship further laid down, that it is not the ordinary rule that if a creditor has got a judgment before a decree, he must not take out execution; though there may be cases where, in reference to the conduct of the parties, and perhaps to the nature of the claim, he ought to be restrained therefrom.

In *Kent v. Pickering*, (y) which was a creditor's suit, one of the testator's creditors, who was not a party to the suit, had recovered judgment *de bonis testatoris, et si non, de bonis propriis*, (z) in an action brought by him against the defendants, the executors. A motion was made, after decree, for an injunction to restrain him from taking out execution on the judgment. Sir L. Shadwell V. C. said, that where there is a decree for the administration of the assets of a testator, the court will interfere, so far as may be necessary, to give effect to its own decree; but that it will not interpose to protect the executors from any liability to which they may have subjected themselves personally. And his honor granted an injunction to restrain the creditor from proceeding at

(x) 1 Keen, 714.

(y) 5 Sim. 55.

(z) Sic in the report; but *quære* whether

it was not a judgment *de bonis testatoris et si non*, for the costs only *de bonis propriis*.



law, against the assets of the testator only. And in *Burles v. Popplewell*, (a) a similar injunction was granted by the same learned judge, his honor observing, that he apprehended the rule of the court to be, that if the executor does, at law, so manage the matter as to make himself personally liable, the court of equity will leave him to be dealt with at law as the court of law will permit, but will not suffer any judgment that may be recovered at law to interfere with its own decree. It may be doubted, however, whether there is, in effect, any difference between such a special injunction and the general one, inasmuch as the creditor, in proceeding at law upon a judgment against the executor, must have resorted, and have resorted in vain, \* to the assets, before he can have recourse to the property or the person of the executor.

It must, however, be observed, that if, on a judgment *de bonis testatoris* the plaintiff, not being able to find goods of the testator's whereupon to levy in execution, were to resort to the personal liability of the executor by means of a *scire fieri* inquiry or by action of debt suggesting a *devastavit*, and by this course were to compel the executor to satisfy the judgment out of his own property, the executor would become entitled to the assets for which he had thus paid an equivalent. For where a claim is made against an executor, if it is shown that he has goods in his hands which were the testator's, he may prove that he has paid to that value with his own money, and this will be a sufficient discharge. (b)

This principle was stated and acted on by Lord Lyndhurst in *Vernon v. Thellusson*. (c) In that case an application was made by the executor to stay further proceedings at law, on a *scire facias* issued on a judgment which had been obtained against the testator, on paying to the plaintiff at law his costs up to the time he had notice of the decree. It was objected that the executor had pleaded *plene administravit*, and consequently that the plaintiff had a right to proceed to trial to falsify that plea; and that the injunction, if granted at all, ought to be confined, according to *Kent v. Pickering*, to restraining execution against the assets of the testator. But Lord Lyndhurst C. was of opinion that further proceedings at law ought to be restrained. And his lordship, after

(a) 10 Sim. 383.

see *Hearne v. Wells*, 1 Coll. 323, 333,

(b) 1 Phill. C. C. 470; *ante*, 647. But per Knight Bruce V. C.

(c) 1 Phill. C. C. 466.

stating the doctrine above mentioned, as to the right of the executor to the assets, in the event of the judgment being satisfied out of his own property, observed, that if the action were allowed to proceed to judgment and execution, the result would be that the assets would thus \* be withdrawn from the general fund which ought to be distributed by the court of equity for the common benefit of all the creditors. For that this consequence would follow whether the assets were discovered and taken in execution by the sheriff on the judgment, or upon the return of *nulla bona*, were ultimately, upon a *scire fieri*, to be satisfied out of the goods of the executors. And his lordship added, that he concurred, therefore, in the decision of Lord *v. Wormleighton*. (*d*)

In *Kirby v. Barton*, (*e*) a judgment creditor of the testator issued a *scire facias* out of the court of exchequer, on the 2d of February, 1843, and on the 27th of April, the executor let judgment go by default. On the 8d of April, 1844, a decree was obtained. On the 25th of May, the executor procured the court of exchequer to set aside the judgment, on the terms that he should plead *plene administravit*, and that judgment, if obtained, should be entered *nunc pro tunc*. On the eve of the trial, the executor applied to Lord Langdale M. R. for an injunction to stay proceedings at law. His lordship was of opinion that he ought to stay execution on the judgment, but doubted whether, after so much delay, he ought to stay the trial. However, on the executor consenting to give judgment, his lordship ordered execution to be stayed and that the judgment should be dealt with as the court might direct; and ultimately refused to allow any further proceedings at law to be taken on the judgment. In the course of his observations, his lordship remarked, "The plaintiffs at law say, 'Why are we not to get the benefit of our judgment? we do not intend to go against the assets, but against the executor personally, after \* nominally proceeding against the assets.' I do not think that would be right."

Again, with respect to restraining proceedings at law against the

(*d*) *Ante*, 1919. His lordship, in the course of his observations, remarks that the judgment on the plea of *plene administravit*, if the verdict were found for the plaintiff, would be *de bonis testatoris* only, and not *de bonis testatoris et si non, de bonis propriis*; and appears in some measure, perhaps, to concede that if the judgment were in the latter form, the principle on which he granted the injunction would be inapplicable. *Sed quare de hoc*.

(*e*) 8 Beav. 45.

[1925] [1926]

*heir*. In *Price v. Evans*, (f) the heir of an intestate, in an action by a bond creditor against him, had pleaded a false plea, and Shadwell V. C., after a decree obtained in a suit by another creditor, for the administration of the assets, restrained the plaintiff at law from taking execution against the assets, but not from proceeding against the heir personally. But in *Rouse v. Jones*, (g) which was a creditor's suit against the real and personal representatives of an intestate for payment of his debts, the defendant, the heir, after the usual decree had been obtained, moved before Shadwell V. C. for an injunction to restrain further proceedings in an action which had been brought against him by a bond creditor of the intestate. The application was resisted on the ground that, before the decree was made, issue had been joined in the action on a plea of *riens per descent præter*, &c. and that if such plea should be falsified the plaintiff would be entitled to judgment against the heir *de bonis propriis*, and thus have a personal remedy against him. The vice chancellor having refused the motion with costs, it was renewed, by way of appeal, before Lord Lyndhurst C., who held that the injunction ought to be granted. His lordship observed, that if, on the trial of the issue, the jury should find that the heir had assets by descent, other than those mentioned in his plea, it would be their duty to assess the value of such lands, and for their value thus found (h) the plaintiff would be entitled to judgment and execution against the heir as for his own debt. But upon the amount being levied or paid, the lands, in respect of which the levy or payment was made, would become the property of the heir. And thus these assets \* would be withdrawn from the fund which ought to be applied for the general benefit of the creditors under the decree; and this, too, in a case where the decree was prior in date to the judgment.

The latest on this subject is *Vincent v. Godson*. (i) There, a bond creditor of the testator, after a bill had been filed in an administration suit by another creditor, but *before any decree* thereon, had obtained judgment for his debt against the executor *de bonis testatoris*. Whereupon an injunction was applied for to stay execution. But Knight Bruce V. C. after an argument, in

(f) 4 Sim. 514.

(g) 1 Phill. C. C. 462.

(h) *Seemle*, the plaintiff would, in such case, be entitled to a general judgment for

the debt, damages, and costs. See 2 Saund. 7 c, note (4).

(i) 3 De G. & Sm. 717.

the course of which all the previous authorities were cited, said he did not see any sufficient ground, in point of precedent or in reason and justice, for depriving the creditor of the benefit of the judgment, and refused the injunction, on the ground, it should seem, that the difficulties in the way of the interfering in the executor's favor were, with regard to his personal liability, insurmountable. (*k*)

In *Oldfield v. Cobbett*, (*l*) a creditor of the testator filed a bill against the executor for administration, and obtained an injunction and receiver. The plaintiff was found a creditor; and the cause was heard on further directions; but the injunction and receiver were not continued. The executor afterwards brought an action at law against the plaintiff for moneys due to the testator. But the court, by injunction, summarily restrained the proceedings. And on a subsequent occasion, (*m*) Lord Langdale determined, that after the estate of the testator has been fully administered in a court of equity, the defendant, the executor, cannot be permitted, without the leave of the court, to commence an action to \*recover from the plaintiff in the suit a portion of the testator's property.

Injunction to restrain the executor from proceeding at law against the plaintiff in the creditor's suit.

Upon the principle mentioned above, (*n*) the court of chancery will, after a decree made in an ordinary administration suit, restrain proceedings in a foreign country for the administration of the personal estate; and, it would seem, of the real estate as well, unless it can be shown that the party instituting such a suit can carry on proceedings as to the landed estate without proceeding as to the personal estate. (*o*)

Injunction in an administration suit to restrain proceedings in a foreign country.

It may be observed, in conclusion, that an executor or administrator will not be allowed to sue or defend as a pauper, "because the indulgence intended poor persons not of ability to sue for their rights *in formâ pauperis* only.

Executor cannot sue or defend *in formâ pauperis*.

(*k*) The learned judge observed that it was unnecessary to consider how the matter would have stood, if the decree had been earlier than the judgment. But that the judgment, having preceded the decree, might (independently of any personal liability at law brought by the judgment upon the defendant at law) have

the effect of placing the plaintiff at law above all the other creditors in the court of equity.

(*l*) 5 Beav. 132.

(*m*) 6 Beav. 515.

(*n*) *Ante*, 1913, 1914.

(*o*) *Hope v. Carnegie*, L. R. 1 Ch. App. 320.

extends to persons suing in their own rights, and not as executor or administrator." (*p*)

(*p*) *Paradise v. Sheppard*, 1 Dick. 136; Sim. 182. See *Bayly v. Bayly*, 11 Beav. Beames on Costs, 78; *Oldfield v. Cobbett*, 256; [*McCoy v. Broderick*, 3 Sneed 1 Phill. C. C. 613; *Fowler v. Davies*, 16 (Tenn.), 203.]

## \*BOOK THE, SECOND.

### OF REMEDIES AGAINST EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS.

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IN the last place, it is proposed to treat of the remedies against executors and administrators, by means of which their various duties and liabilities may be enforced in the courts of law and of equity.

Before entering on this subject, it may be remarked, that no suit can be brought against any executor or administrator, in his official capacity, in the court of any country <sup>Foreign</sup> <sup>executors.</sup> but that from which he derives his authority to act by virtue of the probate or letters of administration there granted to him. (a) Therefore, if a foreign creditor wishes a suit to be brought here, in order to reach the effects of a deceased testator or intestate situate in England, it will be necessary, before the suit can be maintained, notwithstanding an executor or administrator has been appointed abroad, that an English personal representative should also be duly constituted by grant from the proper ecclesiastical court here; for the foreign executor or administrator is not liable to be sued, in his official character, in this country. (b)

(a) Story's Conf. § 513; [Beeler v. administration, as conferring the right to sue or defend as executor or administrator; and before either can be recognized as the personal representative of the deceased, he must be clothed with authority from the laws of the state in whose courts he desires to appear. Administration only extends to the assets of the intestate within the state where it was granted. Doolittle v. Lewis, 7 John. Ch. 47; Morrell v. Dickey, 1 John. Ch. 153; Smith v. Webb, 1 Barb. 230; Hobart v. Conn. Turnp.

(b) Tyler v. Bell, 1 Keen, 826, 829; S. C. 2 My. & Cr. 89, 100; Story's Conf. §§ 513, 514; Flood v. Patterson, 29 Beav. 295. [It was decided in Taylor v. Barron, 35 N. H. 484, that there is no legal privity between administrators appointed in different states. Bell J. said: "In this country it is settled by many decisions that our courts take no notice of a foreign

But it must be observed, that if he should collect the effects or debts of the deceased found or due in England, without taking

Co. 15 Conn. 145; *Picquet v. Swan*, 3 Mason, 469; *Brookshire v. Dubose*, 2 Jones Eq. 276; *Kirkpatrick v. Taylor*, 10 Rich. (Law) 393; *Young v. O'Neil*, 3 Sneed (Tenn.), 55; *Slauter v. Chenowith*, 7 Ired. 211. As an administrator appointed in one state cannot sue in the courts of another state, so he cannot be sued in another state in that capacity. *Norton v. Palmer*, 7 Cush. 523, 524; *Goodall v. Marshall*, 11 N. H. 88; *Brown v. Brown*, 1 Barb. Ch. 189; "Clark v. Clement, 33 N. H. 567; *ante*, 362, note (u); *Judy v. Kelley*, 11 Ill. 211; *Vaughan v. Northrop*, 15 Peters, 1; *Brookshire v. Dubose*, 2 Jones Eq. 276. An administrator appointed in another state is accountable only according to the laws of that state. *Fay v. Haven*, 3 Met. 109; *Vermilya v. Beatty*, 6 Barb. 429; *Sparks v. White*, 7 Humph. 25. He cannot, therefore, be sued elsewhere, even on a judgment against him rendered in the state where he was appointed; *Pond v. Makepeace*, 2 Met. 114; *Goodwin v. Jones*, 3 Mass. 514; *Cutter v. Davenport*, 1 Pick. 86; where he is charged in his representative character, and not *de bonis propriis*. In *Talmage v. Chapel*, 16 Mass. 71, 73, it was held that an administrator appointed in Massachusetts cannot maintain an action upon a judgment recovered by an administrator appointed in New York, for want of privity. *Slauter v. Chenowith*, 7 Ired. 211; *Rosenthal v. Renick*, 44 Ill. 202. A decree, made in the high court of chancery, in a suit wherein an administrator appointed there is plaintiff, and an executor qualified there is defendant, does not estop an administrator appointed in Pennsylvania from suing the same executor qualified in Pennsylvania, upon the same title asserted in the English bill, the subject-matter of the first suit being assets in England, and of the second suit, assets in Pennsylvania; the representatives in England and in Pennsylvania were distinct, and the property in the controversy in the two countries is distinct. *Aspenden v. Nixon*, 4 How. (U. S.) 467, 497. It was held in *Stacy v. Thrasher*, 6 How. (U. S.) 44, that an action will not lie against an administrator in one state, on a judgment recovered against a different administrator of the same intestate, appointed under the authority of another state. There is no privity between the two. "Each is privy to the intestate, and would be estopped by a judgment against him; but they have no privity with each other, in law or in estate. They receive their authority from different sovereignties, and over different property. The authority of each is paramount to the other. Each is accountable to the ordinary from whom he receives his authority. Nor does the one come by succession to the other into the trust of the same property, incumbered by the same debts, as in the case of an administrator *de bonis non*, who may be truly said to have an official privity with his predecessor in the same trust, and, therefore, liable to the same duties." Grier J. in *Stacy v. Thrasher*, 6 How. (U. S.) 44, 59; *Low v. Bartlett*, 8 Met. 259; *Ela v. Edwards*, 13 Allen, 48; *Taylor v. Barron*, 35 N. H. 484, 501; *McLean v. Meek*, 18 How. (U. S.) 16; *Brodie v. Bickley*, 2 Rawle, 431; *Merrill v. New England Mut. Life Ins. Co.* 103 Mass. 245, 249; *Leonard v. Putnam*, 51 N. H. 247, 249, 250; *Clark v. Clement*, 33 N. H. 563; *Dent v. Ashley*, Hempst. 54; *King v. Clarke*, 2 Hill (S. Car.) Ch. 611; *Goodall v. Marshall*, 14 N. H. 161, 169; *Aspenden v. Nixon*, 4 How. (U. S.) 467; *Hill v. Tucker*, 13 How. (U. S.) 466, 467; *Dent v. Ashley*, 1 Hemp. 54; *Beaman v. Elliott*, 10 Cush. 172; *Norwood v. Cobb*, 20 Texas, 588. But the law is otherwise in the case of co-executors holding their offices under different appointments in different states. This was decided in *Hill v. Tucker*, 13 How. (U. S.) 458, and *Goodall v. Tucker*, 13 How. (U. S.) 469, where it was held

out letters of administration here, he would thereby become liable as executor *de son tort*, to the extent of the assets so received by him. (c)

that the relation between executor and testator is altogether different from that between an administrator and the intestate. The executor's interest in the testator's estate is what the testator gives him; that of an administrator is only that which the law of his appointment enjoins. Though there are several executors of the same will in different jurisdictions, they are, as to creditors of the testator, executors in privity, bearing to the creditors the same responsibilities as if there was only one executor. The privity arises from their obligations to pay the testator's debts. All of them, then, having the same privity with each other and to the testator, and the same responsibility to creditors, though they may have been qualified as executors in different sovereignties, an action for a debt due by the testator, against any one of them in that sovereignty where he undertook to act as executor, places all of them in one relation concerning it, and as to the remedies for its recovery; what one may plead to bar a recovery another

may plead; and that which will not bar a recovery against any of them, applies to all of them. But the court say: "We do not think that a judgment obtained against one of several executors would be conclusive as to the demand against another executor, qualified in a different state from that in which the judgment was rendered. But such a judgment may be admissible in evidence in a suit against an executor in another jurisdiction, for the purpose of showing that the demand had been carried into judgment in another jurisdiction, against one of the testator's executors, and that the others were precluded by it from pleading prescription or the statute of limitations upon the original cause of action." See *Jackson v. Tiernan*, 15 Louis. 485.]

(c) See *ante*, 258, 259. But in a suit in equity the presence of an executor *de son tort* in court will not dispense with that of a regular representative. 2 Phill. C. C. 152; *post*, ch. II.



## \* CHAPTER THE FIRST.

## OF REMEDIES AGAINST EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS AT LAW.

AN action of *debt* did not formerly lie against an administrator upon a simple contract, when the testator or intestate could have waged his law; (a) not because such action dies with the person, but because the executor or administrator, as he is presumed to be ignorant of the contract made by the testator or intestate, could not wage his law. (b) Accordingly, debt did not lie against an executor or administrator upon an award made in the lifetime of his testator, because he might, if living, have waged his law to this action. (c) But where the testator or intestate himself could not have waged his law, debt lay against his executor or administrator; as debt for rent upon a parol lease made to the deceased, or by a jailer for diet provided for him while in prison. (d) For the same reason, debt on simple contract lay against an executor or administrator in the exchequer, because, in that court, no wager of law was allowed. (e) Again, debt lay, at common law, against an \* executor or administrator upon a simple contract made with himself after the death of the testator or intestate; for the principle, that the defendant could not wage his

No action lay at common law against an executor in which the testator could have waged his law.

(a) *Barry v. Robinson*, 1 New Rep. 293.

(b) *Pinchon's case*, 9 Co. 87 b; *Bowyer v. Garland*, Cro. Eliz. 600; *Hambly v. Trott*, Cowp. 375.

(c) *Hampton v. Boyer*, Cro. Eliz. 567; *Bowyer v. Garland*, 2 Roll. Abr. 107 C. pl. 3; 2 Saund. 73, note (2), to *Roberts v. Mariett*.

(d) 9 Co. 87 b; [*Thompson v. French*, 10 Yerger, 452.]

(e) 9 Co. 87 b. So a *concessit solvere*, which lies by custom in the courts of the

cities of London and Bristol, the county of the borough of Carmarthen, and other places, being an action of debt upon simple contract, could not be brought against an executor or administrator, because he could not wage his law; but by the custom of London the defendant could never wage his law on this action, and, therefore, a *concessit solvere* always lay there against an executor or administrator. *Snelling's case*, 5 Co. 82 b; S. C. Cro. Eliz. 409; 1 Saund. 68, note (2).

law, does not apply in such a case, where the undertaking to pay originates with the personal representative, who is, therefore, well acquainted with the transaction. (*f*) And it has always been held that *assumpsit* lay against an executor or administrator, upon the simple contract of his testator or intestate; because, in that action, no wager of law was allowed. (*g*)

And now by stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 13, it is enacted that "no wager of law shall be hereafter allowed." And by s. 14, "an action of debt on simple contract shall be maintainable in any court of common law against any executor or administrator." (*g*<sup>1</sup>)

(*f*) Riddell v. Sutton, 5 Bing. 206.

(*g*) *Ame*, 790, note (*s*); 1 Saund. 217, note; notwithstanding what is said to the contrary, in Slade v. Morley, Yelv. 20; Plowd. 182; 9 Co. 87 b.

(*g*<sup>1</sup>) [See *post*, 1937, note (*i*). In Vermont, all estates are settled, as in many of the states insolvent estates are settled upon a representation of insolvency. By the Genl. Sts. Vt. c. 53, § 1, the probate court is required to appoint commissioners to report the debts due from the estate, in all cases, except where it shall appear that there are no debts due from the estate, or where, being less than \$300 in all, it shall be assigned to the widow. In *University of Vermont & Agricultural College v. Baxter*, 43 Vt. 645, 650, Wheeler J. said: "In this state no action, according to the course of the common law, is allowed against executors or administrators except ejectment, to recover some real estate, or replevin to recover some specific personal property. Genl. Sts. Vt. 401, § 15; *Boyden v. Ward*, 38 Vt. 628. No other action can be prosecuted otherwise than by being presented to commissioners. The commissioners are appointed to receive, examine, and adjust claims against the deceased. Genl. Sts. Vt. 400, § 1. They have jurisdiction of all actions that survive by the common law, and several others in addition. Genl. Sts. Vt. 391, §§ 10, 11, 12. But their jurisdiction extends only to the determination of the validity of the claims. They have nothing whatever to do with the assets. The commissioners

are not authorized to render any judgment to be satisfied out of any particular property. The distribution of the assets of the estate in satisfaction of the judgments appertains to the probate court acting independently of the commissioners. *Perrin v. Sargent*, 33 Vt. 84." The judgments of the commissioners "are generally all as of one date; and always so except for the purpose of supplying some accidental or irregular omission. The judgments are perfected by the action of the probate court upon them, and all of them become final when any of them do, so far as the action of the commissioners is concerned, if all the proceedings are regular and in order. There are no means of making the assets known to the commissioners, and neither the existence or want of assets is made in any way the foundation of any judgment by them. The questions that they pass upon pertain wholly to the liability of the deceased, and not at all to his ability to meet his liabilities. Their judgments are like that part of the judgments at common law, in actions against executors and administrators, which pertain to the cause of action, aside from that part which pertain to the satisfaction of the judgments. On appeal from the decision of the commissioners the appellate court should decide the same as the commissioners ought to decide. The judgments when recorded are certified back to the probate court, where the judgments of the commissioners are, and they stand there, with the judgments of the com-

No action of account lay against an executor or administrator at common law ; because the account rested in the privity and knowledge of the deceased only. (*h*) But this action is given by stat. 4 & 5 Ann. c. 16, s. 27.

It was holden, in *Atkins v. Hill*, (*i*) and *Hawkes v. Saunders*, (*k*) that an action might be maintained in a court of common law against an executor, upon his promise to pay a general legacy, in consideration of assets. (*k*<sup>1</sup>) But

missioners in all things as if made by them."]

(*h*) Co. Litt. 89 b; 2 Inst. 404.

(*i*) Cowp. 284.

(*k*) Cowp. 289.

(*k*<sup>1</sup>) [In many of the American States assumpsit or contract will lie after demand for a pecuniary legacy, which has become due, without any express promise. Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 97, § 22; *Blackler v. Boott*, 114 Mass. 24; *Farwell v. Jacobs*, 4 Mass. 635; *Cowdin v. Perry*, 11 Pick. 503; *Jones v. Richardson*, 5 Met. 249; *Colwell v. Alger*, 5 Gray, 67; *Pollard v. Pollard*, 1 Allen, 490; *Brooks v. Lynde*, 7 Allen, 64, 66; *Kent v. Dunham*, 106 Mass. 586; *Miles v. Boyden*, 3 Pick. 213; *Tappan v. Tappan*, 30 N. H. 505; *Warren v. Rogers*, 2 Root, 166; *Knapp v. Hanford*, 6 Conn. 176; *Goodwin v. Chaffee*, 4 Conn. 163; *Colt v. Colt*, 32 Conn. 422, 451; 1 Swift Dig. 455; *Smith v. Lambert*, 30 Maine, 137; *Prescott v. Morse*, 62 Maine, 447; *Payne v. Smith*, 12 N. H. 74; *Cowell v. Oxford*, 6 N. J. (Law) 432; *Woodruff v. Woodruff*, 3 N. J. (Law) 552; *Clark v. Herring*, 5 Binn. 33; *Wilson v. Wilson*, 3 Binn. 559; *Solliday v. Bissey*, 12 Penn. St. 341; *Prescott v. Barker*, 14 Mass. 428. In New York, see *Kelsey v. Deyo*, 3 Cowen, 133; *Tole v. Hardy*, 6 Cowen, 333; *De Witt v. Schoonmaker*, 2 John. 243. In North Carolina, see *M'Neil v. Quince*, 2 Hayw. 153. A bill in equity will lie in such a case where there is ground, in the circumstances connected with the claim, to sustain the equitable jurisdiction. *Colt v. Colt*, 32 Conn. 422. Under the statute of Massachusetts, an action of contract will lie for a specific legacy. *Colwell v. Alger*, 5 Gray, 67;

*Blackler v. Boott*, 114 Mass. 24, 26; Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 97, § 22. In *Blackler v. Boott*, 114 Mass. 24, it was held that in an action against an executor for a legacy a debt due from the plaintiff to the testator may be set off against the legacy. As the ground of this decision the court say a legacy may be recovered against an executor. "The law implies the contract, and thus it is brought within the provisions of the statute of set-off." *Wells J.* 114 Mass. 26. As to the limit of time before which an action cannot be sustained against an executor for a legacy, see *ante*, 1387, and cases cited in note (*q*). One who takes land devised to him under a charge or on condition of his paying a legacy on an annuity, is liable in assumpsit or contract for the legacy or annuity, without any express promise to pay. *Felch v. Taylor*, 13 Pick. 133; *Swasey v. Little*, 7 Pick. 296; *Sheldon v. Purple*, 15 Pick. 528; *Adams v. Adams*, 14 Allen, 65; *Hoover v. Hoover*, 5 Penn. St. 351; *Doolittle v. Hilton*, 63 Maine, 537; *Willis v. Roberts*, 48 Maine, 257; *Lobach's case*, 6 Watts, 167; *Larkin v. Mann*, 53 Barb. 267; *Perry v. Hale*, 44 N. H. 363, 365; *Pickering v. Pickering*, 6 N. H. 120; *Pickering v. Pickering*, 15 N. H. 290; *Kelsey v. Western*, 2 Comst. 501; *Veazey v. Whitehouse*, 10 N. H. 409. See *Beecker v. Beecker*, 7 John. 99; *Kelsey v. Deyo*, 3 Cowen, 133; *Glen v. Fisher*, 6 John. Ch. 33; *Tole v. Hardy*, 6 Cowen, 333; *Gridley v. Gridley*, 24 N. Y. 130; *Van Orden v. Van Orden*, 10 John. 30; *Mahar v. O'Hara*, 9 Ill. 424; *Brown v. Furer*, 4 Serg. & R. 213; *Gauze v. Wiley*, 4 Serg. & R. 504; *Mittenberger v. Schlegel*, 7 Penn. St. 241; *ante*, 1272, note (*n*).

these cases are considered as overruled by the decision of *Deeks v. Strutt*. (1) There an action of *assumpsit* was brought against the executor for the arrears of an annuity bequeathed to the wife of the plaintiff. The executor never made any express promise to pay; but the assets were sufficient to satisfy the plaintiff's demand. It was contended for the plaintiff, that where a man is under a legal or equitable obligation to pay, the law implies a promise, though none \*were ever made. And for this the case of *Hawkes v. Saunders* was cited. But the court of K. B. decided that the action could not be maintained. And Lord Kenyon, in giving his judgment, made the following observations: "The supporting of the present action would be attended with the most pernicious consequences; and I believe that no action till lately (except one, in the time of the Commonwealth), for a legacy, has been supported in a court of law. The arguments, which have of late years been advanced in support of this action, are founded on the supposed justice of the case, and the convenience of the parties. But when it is considered in what manner a court of equity interposes in suits for legacies, in taking care that provision is made for the different parties entitled, and what inconvenience and even ruin to private families would have

So where a testator devised all his real estate to his sons by their paying to each of his daughters a certain sum "out of the estate," it was held that the sons took an absolute estate in fee, charged with legacies to the daughters, and not an estate upon condition; and that the daughters had a remedy for non-payment of their legacies, by action at law, not only against the sons, but also against any tertenants who purchased the estate with notice of the charge. *Taft v. Morse*, 4 Met. 523, 528; *Swazey v. Little*, 7 Pick. 296. Or by a bill in equity, which is probably the more appropriate remedy. *Taft v. Morse*, 4 Met. 523, 528; *Eland v. Eland*, 1 Beav. 235; S. C. 4 My. & Cr. 420. This subject was very fully examined by Parker C. J. in *Pickering v. Pickering*, 15 N. H. 281, from which it appears that the remedy in equity in such cases is more appropriate and complete. The learned judge examines the case of *Swazey v. Little*, *supra*, and accounts for the decision

on the ground of an insufficient equity jurisdiction in Massachusetts at the time it was made. See *Harris v. Fly*, 7 Paige, 427; *Glen v. Fisher*, 6 John. Ch. 33, 36. The remedy at law would be quite inadequate under circumstances pointed out or appearing in *Pickering v. Pickering*, *supra*, and in *Perry v. Hale*, 44 N. H. 363. In an action against an executor to recover a legacy, the plaintiff must allege that the defendant, at the time of action brought, had assets sufficient to pay debts and legacies. *De Witt v. Schoonmaker*, 2 John. 243. It was held in *Kayser v. Disher*, 9 Leigh, 357, that an action at law by a legatee against an executor for a legacy, on the executor's promise to pay it, must be brought against the executor in his individual, not in his representative, character, and the judgment in such case must be *de bonis propriis*. So held in *Pettigrew v. Pettigrew*, 1 Stewart (Ala.), 580.]

(1) 5 T. R. 690.

ensued from determining that an action can be brought in a court of law for a legacy, I think that those who have wished to support the action in a common law court, would hesitate before they came to the conclusion that the action can be maintained. If an action will lie for a legacy, no terms can be imposed on the party who is entitled to recover; and, therefore, when the legacy is given to a wife, the husband would recover at law, and no provision could be made for the wife or family; whereas, a court of equity will take care to make some provision for the wife in such case. But the whole of this admirable system, which has been founded in a court of equity, will fall to the ground, if a court of law can enforce the payment of a legacy. I mention these as decisive reasons in my mind against the jurisdiction of the courts of law over this subject; and I know that they have influenced those who once entertained an idea that this action could be supported."

It will be observed that, in *Deeks v. Strutt*, the executor had not expressly promised to pay; and this circumstance has led to doubts whether the decision of that case went farther than to determine that an action for a legacy cannot be supported upon an implied assent in law of the executor, \*and whether an action will not still lie upon an express promise by him in consideration of assets, or upon an express admission by him that he has money in his hands for the payment of the legacy. (m) However, the judgment of Lord Kenyon has been generally considered as an unqualified decision that an action at law cannot be maintained for a legacy. (n) And in a modern case, (o) it was holden by the court of K. B. that an action at law for a distributive share of an

(m) See the judgment of Grose J. in *Deeks v. Strutt*, 5 T. R. 693, and of Lawrence J. in *Doe v. Guy*, 3 East, 124, and the case of *Gorton v. Dyson*, 1 Brod. & Bing. 219. See, also, *ante*, 1782, 1783.

(n) By *Littledale J.* 7 B. & C. 544. See, also, *Nicholson v. Shermau*, T. Raym. 23; S. C. Sid. 45; *Farish v. Wilson*, Peake N. P. C. 73; [*ante*, 1931, note (k<sup>1</sup>). The action is given by statute, in Massachusetts. Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 97, § 22.]

(o) *Jones v. Tanner*, 7 B. & C. 542. [But it appears from many cases in the American States that an action at law

can be maintained against an administrator for a distributive share. *Commonwealth v. Hammond*, 10 B. Mon. 62; *Negley v. Gard*, 20 Ohio, 310; *Gould v. Hayes*, 19 Ala. 438; *Waldsmith v. Waldsmith*, 2 Ohio, 156. As to the pleadings and judgments in such cases, see *Waldsmith v. Waldsmith*, *supra*. The distributees or next of kin can, however, maintain no suit, either at law or in equity, for the mere purpose of distribution, until letters of administration have been granted on the estate of the deceased. *Gardner v. Gantt*, 19 Ala. 666.]

intestate's property cannot be maintained against the personal representative, although he may have expressly promised to pay. (*p*)

But the law is different with respect to *specific* legacies; for, after an assent by an executor to a specific legacy, he is clearly liable at law to an action by the legatee; because the interest in any specific thing bequeathed vests at law in the legatee, upon the assent of the executor. (*q*) Therefore, a devisee of chattel leaseholds may bring ejectment to recover them against the executor, after an assent by him to the bequest. (*r*) So an action of trover will lie for a specific legacy, after the executor has assented. (*s*)

It must also be observed, that executors may, by arrangement \* with the legatees cease to hold the money bequeathed in their character of executors; in which case they are obviously liable to be sued at law. Thus, in *Gregory v. Harman*, (*t*) the plaintiff and three others being residuary legatees under the will of one T. P., the defendants, as the executors named in the will, accounted with them, and having paid to the latter the respective sums due to them thereon, took from them, and from the plaintiff, a release, but did not pay the plaintiff his share, he having consented to allow it to remain in their hands. And it was held that the money, not being retained by the defendants in their character of executors the plaintiff was entitled to recover it in an action at law. Again, in *Hart v. Minors*, (*u*) E. by will bequeathed, subject to debts and legacies, the residue of his personal estate to his executors, upon trust to divide the same into two equal parts, and to divide one of such

*secus* as to a specific legacy after assent:

or where he has ceased to hold the money as executor:

(*p*) See accord. 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 167, per K. Bruce V. C. in *Holland v. Clark*. [But see *App v. Dreisbach*, 2 Rawle, 287; *Solliday v. Bissey*, 12 Penn. St. 347; *Commonwealth v. Hammond*, 10 B. Mon. 62; *Negley v. Gard*, 20 Ohio, 310; *Gould v. Hayes*, 19 Ala. 438; *Gardner v. Gantt*, 19 Ala. 666.] See, also, *Johnson v. Johnson*, 3 Bos. & Pull. 169, where Lord Alvanley C. J. observed that, "if an executor, thinking that he has settled the affairs of his testator, pay the legacies, I have no difficulty in saying that a court of common law would not entertain an action

for money had and received against a legatee, since such a court cannot take into consideration, as a court of equity would do, the mode in which the funds might have been applied." See, as to an action for a legacy charged on land, *Braithwaite v. Skinner*, 5 M. & W. 313.

(*q*) *Ante*, 1378, 1379; [*Colwell v. Alger*, 5 Gray, 67; *Blackler v. Boott*, 114 Mass. 24, 26.]

(*r*) *Doe v. Guy*, 3 East, 120.

(*s*) *Williams v. Lee*, Atk. 223.

(*t*) 1 Moore & P. 209.

(*u*) 2 Cr. & M. 700.

parts into six equal shares, and to pay one of such shares unto each of his cousins, E. T., J. W., and J. H., and the remaining share as therein mentioned, and appointed M. his executor, who duly approved the will. M., having taken upon himself the execution of the will, called a meeting of the residuary legatees, at which J. H. was present, and exhibited an account, charging himself with assets, and paid some of the legatees the greater portion of their share of the residue, and was about to pay J. H., but was prevented from so doing. Another meeting was afterwards called, at which J. H. was not present, when the executor exhibited another account, charging himself with assets, and crediting himself with payments and disbursements, and, amongst others, with having paid "cash for legacy duties." To this was appended a supplemental account, containing, amongst others, the following item: "By cash retained for J. H., 179*l.* 10*s.*" In an action for money had and received, and on an account stated, brought by J. H. against the executor to recover the amount of the legacy, it was held by the \*barons of the exchequer that the action was maintainable, on the ground of a certain sum having been received and retained by the defendant for the plaintiff's use, by which the defendant ceased to hold the money in his character of executor. (x)

9 & 10  
Vict. c. 95.  
13 & 14  
Vict. c. 61.  
legacy,  
&c. not ex-  
ceeding  
50*l.* recov-  
erable in  
county  
court.

The jurisdiction of the county courts is, by stat. 9 & 10 Vict. c. 95, s. 65, and stat. 13 & 14 Vict. c. 61, extended to the recovery of a demand not exceeding 50*l.*, for a distributive share under an intestacy, or a legacy under a will.

Where money is bequeathed to an executor in trust, that is, where he has trusts to perform with respect to the bequest which do not form part of the ordinary duties of an executor, the case is not within the jurisdiction conferred on the county court by these acts. (y) But a bequest, though made in terms to an executor in trust, may be claimed in the county court

(x) See, also, *Gorton v. Dyson*, 1 Brod. 459, by Rolfe B.; *Bond v. Nurse*, 10 Q. B. 219; *Moert v. Moessard*, 1 Moore B. 244; *Edwards v. Lowndes*, 1 El. & Bl. & P. 8; *Rose v. Savory*, 2 Bing. N. S. 81; *Topham v. Morecroft*, 8 El. & Bl. 145; *Wasney v. Earnshaw*, 4 Tyrwh. 806; 972.  
(y) *Hewston v. Phillips*, 11 Ex. 699. See, further, as to what is a claim for a legacy, *Longbottom v. Longbottom*, 8 W. 49, 56; *Pardoe v. Price*, 16 M. & W. Ex. 203.

if the executor has really nothing more to do than he would be bound to do upon a simple bequest to a legatee, (z)

It has been shown, that in the case of an action brought by executors, they must all join, whether they have administered or not. (a) But the rule as to rejoinder is different in actions *against* executors or administrators. (a<sup>1</sup>) Therefore, where the defendant pleads in abatement that he has one or more co-executors who ought to be joined, he must *aver*, not only that the co-executor is alive, (b) but that he has *administered*; because it is only necessary to sue so many of the executors as have administered. (c) Parties.

In an action against a married woman executrix, the husband must be joined as a defendant. (d) And they must both plead; otherwise it will be a discontinuance. (e) If a *feme covert* and a stranger are executors, the action must be against the stranger, executor, and the husband and wife, executrix. (f)

If trover be brought against a defendant executor, and others not executors, and the jury either find them all guilty, or the executor not guilty and the others guilty, the judgment will be erroneous; because an action of trover does not survive against an executor for a conversion by his testator, (f<sup>1</sup>) and the defendants are improperly joined, inasmuch as the judgment against them is different. But the plaintiff may cure this defect by entering a *nolle prosequi* against the executor, and taking his judgment against the others. (g)

(z) *Pears v. Wilson*, 6 Ex. 833. See, also, *In re Fuller*, 2 El. & Bl. 573. The county court may well try a question of *devastavit* in such a suit. *Winch v. Winch*, 13 C. B. 128. The grant of letters of administration is part of the cause of action. 2 El. & Bl. 573.

(a) *Ante*, 1867.

(a<sup>1</sup>) [See *Owen v. Brown*, 2 Ala. 126; *Jones v. Wilkinson*, 3 Stewart, 44; *Barnes v. Jarnagin*, 12 Sm. & M. 108.]

(b) *Hilbert v. Lewis*, 1 Freem. 268.

(c) *Bro. Exors.* 20, 88; *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 205, 14th ed.; *Swallow v. Emberson*, 1 Lev. 161; *Com. Dig. Abatement*, F. 10; *Alexander v. Mawman*, Willes, 42; 1 Saund. 291 m, note. [See *Barnes v. Jarnagin*, 12 Sm. & M. 108.] As to the form of the plea, see *Ryalls v. Bramall*, 1 Ex.

734. [To authorize a joint judgment against two who are sued as executors, the proof must show a joint liability as such; if one only is proved to be liable, and he personally, the plaintiff must fail. *Moody v. Ewing*, 8 B. Mon. 521.]

(d) *Com. Dig. Admon. D.*

(e) *Aylworth v. Fenn*, 1 Freem. 351.

(f) *Com. Dig. Abatement*, F. 20.

(f<sup>1</sup>) [But see, *ante*, 1728, note (j<sup>2</sup>), 1734, note (m<sup>1</sup>).]

(g) *Dale v. Eyre*, 1 Wils. 306; 1 Saund. 207 a, note to *Salmon v. Smith*. But the misjoinder could not be so cured in an action on a contract. 1 Saund. 207 a, note. But it may be cured by amendment under the common law procedure act, 1852, s. 37.



If one of two executors dies, an action cannot be brought against the surviving executor and the executor of the deceased executor, but must be against the survivor alone. (*h*)

A defendant may be declared against as executor or \* administrator, although the process only describes him generally. (*i*)

It seems doubtful whether the stat. 18 & 19 Vict. c. 67 (the summary procedure in bills of exchange act) applies where the defendant is sued as executor or administrator, as it gives only one form of judgment, which is a judgment against the defendant personally. (*k*)

Service on one of two co-executors, who were in possession of the premises, is a sufficient service in ejectment. (*l*)

In an action against an executor, as such, he must be named executor; (*m*) but if, upon the whole matter, the plaintiff has declared against the defendant as executor, the judgment may well be *de bonis testatoris*, although the defendant is not named executor at the beginning of the declaration. (*n*)

(*h*) 1 Roll. Abr. 928, tit. Exors. Z. But if the executor of the executor administer with the other, an action lies against both as executors. *Ib.*

(*i*) *Watson v. Pulling*, 3 Brod. & Bing. 4; S. C. 6 Moore, 66. [See *Duncan v. Duncan*, 4 Bennett (Miss.), 434; *Brockman v. McDonald*, 16 Ill. 112.] It has been doubted, however, whether the service of a writ of summons, in which an executor is not described in his representative character, is notice to him of the commencement of an action against him in that character, so as to render him liable to a *devastavit*, if he pays debts of an equal degree with that sued for, between the service of the writ and filing the declaration. *Rees v. Morgan*, 5 B. & Ad. 1035; S. C. 3 Nev. & M. 205; *Tidd's New Pr.* 68; *ante*, 1033, note (*o*). [Writs of attachment and executions against executors and administrators, in Massachusetts, for debts due from the deceased testator or intestate, shall run only against the goods and estate of the deceased in their hands, and not against their bodies, goods, or estate. *Genl. Sta. Mass. c. 128, § 5.*]

(*k*) *Lush's Practice*, by Dixon, 1030.

(*l*) *Doe dem. Strickland v. Roe*, 4 D. & L. 431. [In an action against several executors or administrators in their representative capacity, service must be made upon all, to support a judgment against any of them; and if service is made only upon one, it is error to discontinue as to the other, and take judgment by default against him who was served with process. *Barnes v. Jarnagin*, 12 Sm. & M. 108.]

(*m*) *Com. Dig. Pleader*, 2 D. 2; [*Brown v. Hicks*, 1 Ark. 232; *McNeill v. Cook*, 33 Ala. 278.]

(*n*) *Dean of Bristol v. Guyse*, 1 Saund. 112 a; *Rann v. Hughes*, 4 Bro. P. C. 27, *Toml. ed.*; *Com. Dig. Abatement*, F. 20; *Ib. Pleader*, 2 D. 2. [So, on the other hand, it has been held that in case executors, who are sued, are not liable as such, but are liable in their individual capacities for the wrong or injury done and complained of, judgment may be rendered against them as individuals, although the declaration charges them as executors. *Baughter v. Wilkins*, 16 Md. 35; *Johnson*

Thus it is enough in an action of covenant on a demise to the testator, to state that he made his will and appointed the defendant *his executor*, who entered and was possessed *as executor*; for this averment may be traversed by the defendant. (o)

how defendant to be charged as executor:

\* The form of declaration given by sect. 26 of the stat. 8 & 9 Vict. c. 16 (companies clauses consolidation act) is not applicable to an action against the executors of a shareholder for calls made during his lifetime. (p)

In an action by a lessor against the executor of the lessee, for rent incurred in the testator's time, whether the action be in debt or covenant, the venue is transitory; and so it is in actions where the executor is sued, *as executor*, for rent incurred in his own time. But where he is sued in debt in the *debet* and *detinet*, or in covenant, as assignee, for rent incurred in his own time, the venue is local. (q)

Venue.

v. Gaines, 8 Ala. 791. But see Harrell v. Scudder, 27 Ind. 499; Harrell v. Mattingley, 27 Ind. 500.]

(o) Holliday v. Fletcher, 2 Ld. Raym. 1510; S. C. 2 Stra. 781. So where the declaration stated that, on the death of the lessee, all his estate and interest in the lands came to and vested in L. and one M., since deceased, which said L. and M. were executrixes of the last will and testament of the lessee, by reason whereof L. and M., as executrixes as aforesaid, became and were possessed, &c.; it was objected, that this was not a sufficient allegation that the term vested in L. and M. as executrixes; but the court of common pleas held that there was no good ground of objection to this averment, which was in effect a conclusion of law, the term vesting by law in the personal representative, and the lessor having the right to sue the personal representative, on the covenant of the testator. Ackland v. Fring, 2 M. & Gr. 937. If the plaintiff declares in the *debet* and *detinet* against an executor or administrator, in cases where he ought to sue in the *detinet* only, the declaration is bad on demurrer; though it is aided by verdict. Fruen v. Porter, 1 Sid. 379. But no objection can be made to a

declaration in the *detinet*, which might, and strictly ought to be laid in the *debet* and *detinet*; for a party may abridge his demand, though he cannot extend it. Wilson v. Hobday, 4 M. & Sel. 120.

(p) Birkenhead Railway v. Cotesworth, 5 Ex. 226.

(q) Hellier v. Casbard, 1 Sid. 266; Cornet v. Lisset, 2 Lev. 80; 1 Saund. 241, note to Thursby v. Plant. [In Massachusetts, transitory actions, by or against executors or administrators, may be brought in any county in which such action might have been brought by or against the testator or intestate, at the time of his decease. St. Mass. 1865, c. 13. As to North Carolina, see Stanley v. Mason, 69 N. Car. 1. An executor cannot be compelled to appear and answer to a suit against him in a state where he has not taken out letters testamentary, nor done any official act. His power and liability are confined to the state in which he has taken out such letters; and the fact that process is served upon him in another state, while within the jurisdiction of the court from which it issued, does not make him amenable to its process in his representative capacity. Security Ins. Co. v. Taylor, 2 Biss. 446.]

A plaintiff cannot have an action against a defendant to charge him as executor, and also in his own right; for the judgment in the one case is *de bonis propriis*, and in the other *de bonis testatoris*. (r) And such misjoinder of action, as well against an executor as by him, (s) is a defect in substance, and, consequently, bad on a general demurrer, or arrest of judgment, or on error. (t) Therefore, a count for \*money *had and received* by the defendant, as executor, for the plaintiff's use, (z) or for *money lent* to the executor, *as such*, (a) or for *interest*, alleging forbearance to the defendant as executor, *at his request*, (b) cannot be joined to a count on a promise made by the testator. (c) So a count upon a promise by the defendant, as executor, for *use and occupation* after the death of the testator, cannot be joined in the same declaration with a count upon promises by the testator to pay rent; inasmuch as the former count makes the defendant personally liable, whereas the latter makes him liable only to the extent of assets. (d) Again, a count for *goods sold* to, or *work done* for the defendant as executor, cannot be

(r) *Herrenden v. Palmer*, Hob. 88; *Hall v. Huffam*, 2 Lev. 288; [*ante*, 1872, and cases in note (z<sup>1</sup>). A count on a promise by the testator may be joined with a count for the funeral expenses, alleging that they were incurred at the request of the executor, and that he, as executor, promised to pay therefor. *Hapgood v. Houghton*, 10 Pick. 154.]

(s) See *ante*, 1872.

(t) *Jennings v. Newman*, 4 T. R. 347; *Rose v. Bowler*, 1 H. Bl. 108; *Brigden v. Parkes*, 2 Bos. & Pull. 424; 2 Saund. 117 h, note; *Ib.* 210 b, note to *Foxwist v. Tremaine*. [See *Howard v. Powers*, 6 Ham. 92; *Fry v. Evans*, 8 Wend. 530; *Carter v. Phelps*, 8 John. 440. On a count stating a promise by an executor as such, the judgment must be entered *de bonis propriis*, and therefore such a count cannot be joined with one on an indebtedness of the testator. *Seip v. Drach*, 14 Penn. St. 352; *Moody v. Ewing*, 8 B. Mon. 521; *Benjamin v. Taylor*, 12 Barb. 328. And the objection may be taken on general demurrer to the whole declaration. *Godbold v. Roberts*, 20 Ala. 354.] And the court cannot award a *venire de novo*. Cor-

ner *v. Shew*, 4 M. & W. 163. If separate damages have been assessed on each count, the objection may be cured by entering a *nolle prosequi* as to the count which constitutes the misjoinder. See *Hayter v. Moat*, 5 Dowl. 298.

(z) *Ante*, 1774. See, also, *Parker v. Baylis*, 2 Bos. & Pull. 73; [*Moody v. Ewing*, 8 B. Mon. 521.]

(a) *Ante*, 1774.

(b) *Bignell v. Harpur*, 4 Ex. 773; *ante*, 1776.

(c) 2 Saund. 117 h, note.

(d) *Wigley v. Ashton*, 3 B. & Ald. 101. See, however, *Atkins v. Humphrey*, 2 C. B. 654; 8 C. 3 D. & L. 312, where the plaintiff declared against A. and B. as executors, alleging that they, as executors, were indebted to him for the use and occupation of certain messuages held of him by them as executors under a demise to the testator, and that, in consideration of the premises, they, as executors, promised to pay; and it was held that this declaration disclosed a sufficient cause of action against them under the stat. 11 Geo. 2, c. 19, s. 14, in their representative character.

joined with a count for a debt due from the defendant in his representative capacity ; for since no goods can be sold to or work performed for another in his representative character, the claim in respect thereof is necessarily from the defendant in his own right. (e) If, in fact, the goods, or work, had been contracted for by the testator, and the contract completed by the plaintiff in the time of the executor, the declaration, instead of containing the common counts for goods sold to, and work done for, the executor, should state the contract to have been made with the testator, and that at the time of his death the work was incomplete, but was finished afterwards, and the defendant, as executor, then promised to pay. (f)

\* But a count on an *account stated* with the defendant, as executor, whether the account be averred to have been stated of money *due from the testator* to the plaintiff, (g) or of money *due from the defendant as executor*, to the plaintiff, (h) may be joined to counts on promises made by the testator. And so may a count for *money paid* by the plaintiff to the use of the defendant *as executor*. (i) For these counts do not charge the defendant personally ; but he may plead *plene administravit* and the judgment is *de bonis testatoris*. (k) It must be observed, that whenever an executor or administrator is sued, upon promises by him in that character, the words "*as executor*" must be inserted in each count in stating the promise, and also in stating the debt, or cause of action, if it be laid to have accrued after the death of the testator or intestate. (l)

In a case (m) where an intestate had granted an annuity to the plaintiff, and after his death his administratrix procured it to be set aside for a defect in the memorial ; and the

when a  
count for  
money had

(e) *Corner v. Shew*, 3 M. & W. 350 ; *Phelps*, 8 John. 440 ; *Malin v. Bull*, 13 Serg. & R. 441 ; *M'Kinley v. Call*, 1 T. B. Mon. 54 ; *Vaughn v. Gardner*, 7 B. Mon. 326 ; *Howard v. Powers*, 6 Ohio, 92 ; *Reeve v. Cawley*, 17 N. J. (Law) 415 ; *Bank of Pennsylvania v. Jacobs*, 1 Penn. 161 ; *Benjamin v. Taylor*, 12 Barb. 328 ; *Strohecker v. Grant*, 16 Serg. & R. 237.]

(f) See *Werner v. Humphreys*, 2 M. & Gr. 857, note (a) ; [*Smith v. Proctor*, 1 Sandf. 72.]

(g) *Ante*, 1772, 1773.

(h) *Ante*, 1773.

(i) *Ante*, 1773.

(k) *Ante*, 1773. [A count on a promise by an executor or administrator as such, in which he is not charged as personally liable, may be joined with a count on a promise by the deceased. *Carter v.*

(l) *Brigden v. Parkes*, 2 Bos. & Pull. 424 ; 1 Chit. Pl. 236, 5th ed. ; but see *ante*, 1874.

(m) *Churchill v. Bertrand*, 3 Q. B. 568.

and received by the deceased can be employed:

plaintiff thereupon, in order to recover back the consideration money, brought *indebitatus assumpsit*, and declared against the administratrix in counts for money had and received *by the intestate* to the plaintiff's use, it was held, in accordance with *Cowper v. Godmond*, (n) that the money paid to the grantor of a defective annuity is not money had and received to the use of the grantee till the grantor has elected to vacate the annuity, and that then such election does not make the money had and received to the use of the grantee from the time of the grant by relation; and consequently that, in the present case, as the money could not be money had and received to the plaintiff's use until after the death of the intestate, it could not be money had and received *by him*, and that, therefore, the counts employed were not applicable.

\* Where the nature of the whole claim set forth in the declaration is such as necessarily to make the defendant liable in what cases the words "as executor" in the declaration may be rejected. personally, and nevertheless he is charged *as executor*, those words may be struck out as surplusage. (o) But it should seem that this cannot be done in a case in which the defendant could, on any supposition, be liable in his representative character in respect of the contract declared on. (p)

In an action against an executor or administrator, the defendant may plead any matter which the testator or intestate might have pleaded; (q) and in addition thereto he may deny the character in which he is sued, by pleading *ne unques executor or administrator*; or admitting it, he may plead that he has no assets in his hands, and that either generally, or specially, or with the exception of assets to a certain amount, which are not sufficient to satisfy the plaintiff; or he may plead a retainer to pay his own debt of equal or superior degree, or debts

(n) 9 Bing. 748.

(o) *Wigley v. Ashton*, 3 B. & Ald. 101. [See *Braden v. Hollingsworth*, 8 Humph. 19; *Peters v. Heydenfeldt*, 3 Ala. 205; *Davies v. Mead*, 2 Bibb, 397; *King v. Beeler*, 4 Bibb, 83; *Hood v. Link*, 2 B. Mon. 37; *Merritt v. Seaman*, 6 N. Y. 168.]

(p) 3 M. & W. 356. [When sued by a creditor, it is his duty so to plead as to protect the rights of all the creditors of the estate of whose demands he has no

tice, according to their priorities as fixed by law; and if he fails to do so he becomes personally chargeable. *Davis v. Smith*, 5 Geo. 74; *Hatchcraft v. Tilford*, 5 Dana, 353. But he is not bound to litigate the title of his testator to goods claimed by third persons. He may exercise his discretion, and is not responsible, except he be guilty of negligence, collusion, or fraud. *Chappell v. Brown*, 1 Bailey (S. Car.), 528.]

(q) Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 8.

of a superior degree due to third persons, on bonds or judgments, &c. (r)

In debt on simple contract, against executors or administrators, *non detinet* was formerly a good plea in all cases where nothing was due to the plaintiff at the time of commencing the action. (s) But now by Reg. Gen. Hil. T. 1853, r. 8, in every species of actions on contract, all matters in confession and avoidance, including not only those by way of discharge, but those which show the transaction to be either void or voidable in point of law, on the ground of fraud or otherwise, shall be specially pleaded.

In debt on bond, if the executor pleads *non est factum suum*, it is good after verdict; for *suum* refers to the testator. (t) So, in an action of *assumpsit*, *non assumpsit* generally is a good plea, at least, after verdict; for it shall be referred to the testator. (u)

\* Unless a *devastavit* is suggested, a plea by an executor or administrator of his own bankruptcy is not pleadable; <sup>plea of executor's bank-ruptcy:</sup> as the proceedings in bankruptcy would not bind any effects, upon which, if the plaintiff obtained judgment and execution, the sheriff would have a right to levy under a *fi. fa.* (x) In *Serle v. Bradshaw*, (y) a defendant, in an action against him as administrator, being under terms to plead issuably, pleaded *plene administravit* and his own bankruptcy. And the barons of the exchequer held that the plaintiff might sign judgment as for want of a plea, on the ground that the plea of bankruptcy could not possibly be good, if the plea of *plene administravit* were true.

If there are several executors, they may plead different pleas; and that which is most to the testator's advantage <sup>pleas by several ex-ecutors.</sup> shall be received. Therefore, in an action of *assumpsit* against four executors, upon a promise made by the testator, if one executor acknowledges the action, and the other three plead *non assumpsit*, their plea shall be received. (z) Hence, if a war-

(r) Tidd, 644, 9th ed.

(s) Ib. 648; Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 W. 17.

(t) Baker's case, Latch, 125; Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 8.

(u) Browning v. Litton, 1 Lev. 184; S. C. 1 Sid. 222. [In an action against an executor for a debt due from the testator, the plea of *non est factum*, or *non assumpsit*, is an admission of a will, of which the

defendant is executor; but it is otherwise where the action is for a demand for which the testator was not liable, as for a legacy, *Hantz v. Sealy*, 6 Binn. 405.]

(x) See *ante*, 637.

(y) 2 Cr. & M. 148; S. C. 4 Tyrwh. 69; 2 Dowl. 289.

(z) *Chaffe v. Kolland*, 1 Roll. Abr. 929, tit. Exors. A. pl. 1; *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 212, 14th ed.; *Elwell v. Quash*, 1 Stra. 20;

rant of attorney be given by one of several executors to confess judgment against them all, the courts will order it to be delivered up. (a) So where one executor pleaded a good plea, and the other a bad one, on demurrer, judgment was given in C. B. for both the defendants; but it was reversed on error, and a new judgment given for the plaintiff against one executor only. (b)

Where several executors plead a release to the testator or to themselves, and one of them afterwards makes default, this shall not be a total default in the defendants, so as to induce a judgment against them. (c)

\* If the defendant intends to deny his being executor or administrator, he must plead such denial specially; otherwise he will admit his representative character. (c<sup>1</sup>) The plea of *ne unques executor* or *ne unques administrator* is a plea in bar. (d) But a plea, to an action brought against the defendant as executor, that he is administrator and not executor, is a plea in abatement only. (e) So, in an action against the defendant as administrator, a plea that he is not administrator but executor can only be in abatement. (f) So, if he be sued as administrator generally, he must plead in abatement that he is administrator only *durante minoritate*. (g)

[Huston J. in *Lyon v. Allison*, 1 Watts, 172.] So if two executors have judgment, and the one prays a *capias*, and the other a *fiery facias*, the *capias* shall be awarded, as best for the testator. *Foster v. Jackson*, Hob. 61, cited as the opinion of Co-tismore in 7 H. 6, 6. [In an action against two executors for a legacy, one of them may separately plead *plene administravit*; and if it be found for him, judgment will be rendered in his favor, and the plaintiff may recover from the other. *App v. Dreisbach*, 2 Rawle, 287; *Geddis v. Irvine*, 5 Penn. St. 308.]

(a) *Elwell v. Quash*, 1 Stra. 20; *Tidd*, 548, 9th ed.

(b) *Baldwin v. Church*, cited 1 Stra. 20.

(c) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 213, 14th ed.

(c<sup>1</sup>) [*Lomax v. Spierin*, *Dudley (S. Car.)*, 365; *Railroad Co. v. Joyce*, 8 Rich. (S. Car.) 117.]

(d) *Com. Dig. Pleader*, 2 D. 7; [Shown *v. Barr*, 11 Ired. 296; *Cain v. Haas*, 18 Texas, 616; *The Governor v. Evans*, 1

Ark. 349; *Finn v. Chase*, 4 Denio, 85; *Coddling v. Whitaker*, 5 Blackf. 470. In *Langford v. Frey*, 8 Humph. 443, it was held that a defendant sued as executor, on an obligation of the deceased, may plead *ne unques executor*, and *non est factum*.]

(e) *Pyne v. Wolland*, 2 Ventr. 178; *Harding v. Salkill*, 1 Salk. 296; *Granwell v. Sibly*, 2 Lev. 190; *Com. Dig. Pleader*, 2 D. 3, 2 D. 7. In such a plea he must show that the administration is well granted to him. *Com. Dig. Pleader*, 2 D. 4. But he need not traverse *absque hoc* that he administered as executor; for this is more proper for the other side; nor that he was made executor. *Com. Dig. Pleader*, 2 D. 4.

(f) *Com. Dig. Abatement*, F. 20, *Pleader*, 2 D. 12. In this plea the defendant must traverse *absque hoc* that the deceased died intestate. *Com. Dig. Pleader*, 2 D. 4.

(g) *Little v. Plant*, 1 Lutw. 20; *Com. Dig. Pleader*, 2 D. 12.

On the trial of an issue joined on a plea of *ne unques executor* or *administrator*, the *onus* of proof is on the plaintiff, who has to prove the affirmative of the proposition. (*g*<sup>1</sup>)

Proof that the defendant has intermeddled with the property, so as to make himself executor *de son tort* (*h*) is sufficient proof of his being executor. (*i*)

\* It is said that it seems to be now settled, that the plaintiff would fail on an issue joined on the plea of *ne unques executor*, unless he could prove, not only the appointment of the defendant as executor, but also that he has taken upon himself to act as such, or has proved the will. (*k*) But it is laid down, in a book of authority, that an executor who proves the will, though he does not otherwise administer, cannot plead *ne unques executor*. And that, if there be two executors, and one proves it in the name of both, even against the will of the other, yet he cannot plead *ne unques executor* nor administer as executor. (*l*)

For the purpose of introducing formal and documentary evidence of the defendant being executor or administrator, it is always prudent, and in some cases absolutely necessary, to give notice to the defendant to produce at the trial the probate of the

(*g*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Travers v. Boykin*, 6 Ala. 355.]

(*h*) As to the acts by which a person will make himself executor *de son tort*, see *ante*, 257.

(*i*) See *ante*, 265; [*Witcher v. Wilson*, 47 Miss. 663.] Besides, the plea of *ne unques executor* must go on to allege that the defendant never administered as executor; so that, in the case put, this latter part of the plea is found untrue. *Wentw. Off. Ex. c. 15*, p. 339, 14th ed. (But see *Scott v. Wedlake*, 7 Q.B. 780, 781, by *Tindal C. J.*) So to a plea *ne unques executor*, the plaintiff may reply that the defendant has administered; *Keble v. Keble*, *Hob.* 49; *Com. Dig. Pleader*, 2 D. 7; or that goods of the testator to a certain value came to the defendant's hands before administration granted. *Kellow v. Westcombe*, 1 *Freem.* 122; *S. C.* 3 *Keb.* 202; *Hinde v. Skelton*, 34 *L. J. N. S. Ch.* 378; 2 *Hemm. & M.* 690. As to the proper plea by an executor who has administered under a will, which has been

afterwards disproved, see *ante*, 258, note (*l*).

(*k*) 2 *Phill. Ev.* 363, 7th ed., citing *Douglas v. Forrest*, 4 *Bing.* 704; *Cottle v. Aldrich*, 1 *Stark. N. P. C.* 38; *S. C.* 4 *M. & Sel.* 175; *Atkins v. Tredgold*, 2 *B. & C.* 30; [*Witcher v. Wilson*, 47 *Miss.* 663.]

(*l*) *Com. Dig. Pleader*, 2 D. 7. See, also, *Wentw. Off. Ex. c. 15*, p. 339, 14th ed. The author of the latter work expresses his opinion, that even in the case of a sole executor, who has refused before the court of probate, he cannot safely plead *ne unques executor*; since he so was executor before his refusal, that he might have released all debts due to the testator, and given away all his goods; and, therefore, he must plead specially, showing his refusal, and not generally deny his being executor. But where the plaintiff declares on promises by the defendants *as executors*, the mere naming of one of them in the will is not enough to prove him executor. See the judgment of *Holroyd, J.* in *Atkins v. Tredgold*, 2 *B. & C.* 30.



will, or the letters of administration. (*m*) But it is not also necessary, in order to let in secondary evidence, to prove that the probate or letters are in the defendant's possession; for if he has been duly appointed executor or administrator, they must necessarily be presumed to be in his possession. (*n*) Some evidence of the identity of the party, namely, that the person, described in the documentary \* evidence as executor or administrator, is the party sued, will be indispensably necessary. (*o*)

The plea of *ne unques executor* or *administrator* does not deny the cause of action, but only that the defendant is one of the representatives of the testator or intestate. (*p*) Therefore, where in *assumpsit* against two defendants as executors there was a plea by both of *ne unques executors*, and it appeared in evidence that one of the defendants was executor, and the other was not, it was held that the plaintiff might, upon counts laying promises by the testator, take a verdict against the former defendant alone, and the latter defendant must be discharged; although as to the counts which laid the promises by the defendants as executors, the plaintiff must fail altogether. (*q*) So if, in an action against several executors one of the defendants plead severally *ne unques executor*, the plaintiff may enter a *nolle prosequi* as to him, and proceed against the others. (*r*)

Hence it follows that a plea by one of two persons charged as executors, that the other is not executor, is bad. (*s*)

If the defendant, being sued as administrator, pleads, that before the date of the writ, his administration was revoked and granted to another, he ought to allege that he has fully administered all the goods in his hands, or else that he has delivered them over to the new administrators. (*t*) Accordingly, if an administrator wastes the goods, and afterwards administration is committed to another, yet any creditor may charge him in debt, and if he pleads the last administration com-

(*m*) 2 Phill. Ev. 346, 6th ed.

(*n*) 2 Phill. Ev. 347, 6th ed.

(*o*) 2 Phill. Ev. 347, 6th ed.

(*p*) 1 Saund. 207 a, note to Salmon v. Smith.

(*q*) Griffith v. Franklin, Mood. & M. 146. See, also, Atkins v. Tredgold, 2 B. & C. 30, by Holroyd J.

(*r*) 1 Saund. 207 a, nota.

(*s*) Atkins v. Humphrey, 2 C. B. 654. S. C. 2 D. & L. 312.

(*t*) Garter v. Dee, 1 Freem. 13; ante, 594. These goods, as in the case of goods possessed by an executor *de son tort*, shall not be assets in the hands of the new administrator, until they come to his possession. Ib.; Keble v. Keble, Hob. 49.

mitted to another, the other may reply that \* before the second administration committed, he had wasted the goods. (u)

If an action be brought on a debt, which the testator or intestate contracted more than six years before the commencement of the suit, (u<sup>1</sup>) and the plaintiff means to rely upon a promise by the executor or administrator, to

plea of the statute of limitations:

(u) Packman's case, 6 Co. 18 b.

(u<sup>1</sup>) [In Massachusetts, in addition to the general statutes of limitation, provision is made that no executor or administrator, after having given the required notice of his appointment, shall be held to answer to the suit of any creditor of the deceased, unless it is commenced within two years from the time of giving bond, except in certain specified cases. Genl. Sta. Mass. c. 97, § 5. *Bacon v. Pomeroy*, 104 Mass. 583. See *ante*, 1803, note (g); *Cooper v. Cherry*, 8 Jones (Law), 323; *Kelly v. Hooper*, 3 Yerger, 395; *Stillman v. Young*, 16 Ill. 318; *Bryan v. Mundy*, 17 Missou. 556. No disability of the creditor, as by infancy, during the two years, will prevent his claim from being barred under this statute. *Hall v. Bumstead*, 20 Pick. 2, 8. An executor *de son tort* is liable on a cause of action existing against the debtor at his decease, until the action is barred by the special limitation of time after a lawful grant of administration. *Brown v. Leavitt*, 26 Miss. 493. It is the duty of an executor or administrator to plead this statute of limitation in bar of any action brought against him after the time limited. *Ante*, 1803, note (g). He may plead it in answer to claims in set-off filed after the expiration of the two years. *Ante*, 1876, note (o<sup>1</sup>). When an estate is represented insolvent, the presentation of the claim of a creditor to the commissioners appointed to examine the claims of creditors, or to the court, when it takes that duty upon itself, will be a sufficient commencement of a suit to prevent such claim from being barred under this statute. See *Aiken v. Morse*, 104 Mass. 277, 279, 281; *Bacon v. Pomeroy*, 104 Mass. 583; *ante*, 1915, note (o<sup>1</sup>). In cases where it is required by statute that claims against an

estate shall be presented to the executor or administrator thereof for payment, within a stipulated period, and be sued within a certain time, the requirements of the statute must be strictly observed, in order to enable the creditor to maintain an action thereon. *Badger v. Kelly*, 10 Ala. 944; *Jones v. Pharr*, 3 Ala. 283; *Starke v. Keenan*, 5 Ala. 590; *King v. Mosely*, 5 Ala. 610; *Cawthorne v. Weissinger*, 6 Ala. 714; *Ready v. Thompson*, 4 Stew. & Port. 52; *Thurston v. Lowder*, 47 Maine, 72; *Walker v. Byers*, 14 Ark. 246; *Bennett v. Dawson*, 15 Ark. 412; *Ryan v. Jones*, 15 Ill. 1; *Wingate v. Pool*, 25 Ill. 118; *Preston v. Day*, 15 Iowa, 127; *Bemis v. Bemis*, 13 Gray, 559; *French v. Davis*, 38 Miss. 218; *Walker v. Cheever*, 39 N. H. 420; *Cutter v. Emery*, 37 N. H. 567; *Stanfield v. Neill*, 36 Texas, 688; *Cotton v. Jones*, 37 Texas, 34; *Scovil v. Scovil*, 45 Barb. 517; *Barsalov v. Wright*, 4 Bradf. Sur. 164; *Hubbard v. Marsh*, 7 Ired. (Law) 204; *Harter v. Taggart*, 14 Ohio St. 122; *Demmy's Appeal*, 43 Penn. St. 155; *New England Bank v. Newport & Co.* 6 R. I. 154; *Trott v. West*, 9 Yerger, 433; *Allen v. Farrington*, 2 Sneed (Tenn.), 526; *Maynard v. May*, 2 Coldw. 44; *Jennings v. Bowder*, 24 Texas, 192; *Mannus v. Flynn*, 10 Leigh, 93; *Sugar River Bank v. Fairbanks*, 49 N. H. 140; *Ticknor v. Harris*, 14 N. H. 272. The burden is on plaintiff in New Hampshire to show that he has exhibited demand against deceased, to his executor or administrator, before action against the latter. *Mathes v. Jackson*, 6 N. H. 105. Although in Illinois the claim of a creditor of an estate should be barred by reason of its not having been exhibited within the two years, he is still entitled to participate in any estate not inventoried or accounted for

take the case out of the statute of limitations, the declaration should contain a count or counts upon promises by the executor or

within that time. *Stone v. Clark*, 40 Ill. 411; *Bradford v. Jones*, 17 Ill. 93. So in Massachusetts, when assets come to the hands of an executor or administrator after the expiration of two years, he shall be liable for the same, in like manner as if they had been received within that time; he will be liable to an action at law, or to any suit or process in the probate court, on account of such new assets, by or for the benefit of any creditor, in like manner as if the assets had been received within the two years, if such action or proceeding is commenced within one year after the creditor has notice of the receipt of such new assets, and not more than two years after the same are actually received. Genl. Sta. Mass. c. 97, § 6; *Bradford v. Forbes*, 9 Allen, 365; *Chenery v. Webster*, 8 Allen, 76; *White v. Swain*, 3 Pick. 365; *Robinson v. Hodge*, 117 Mass. 222; *Sturtevant v. Sturtevant*, 4 Allen, 122; *Veazie v. Marrett*, 6 Allen, 372; *Alden v. Stebbins*, 99 Mass. 616; *Welsh v. Welsh*, 105 Mass. 229, 231; *Thurston v. Lowder*, 47 Maine, 72; *McLellan v. Lunt*, 11 Maine, 150; *ante*, 1679, note (x). Provision is also made for the case of a creditor of the deceased, whose right of action does not accrue within two years after the giving of the administration bond, in Genl. Sta. Mass. c. 97, § 8. See *Bacon v. Pomeroy*, 104 Mass. 577, 584. It is also provided that an administrator *de bonis non* shall be liable to the actions of creditors for two years after he has given bond, unless the same were barred prior to the termination of the previous administration. Genl. Sta. Mass. c. 97, § 12. And a like provision is made, for the case where new assets come to the hands of such administrator *de bonis non*, as for the case of new assets coming to the hands of the original executor or administrator. Genl. Sta. Mass. c. 97, § 14. See *Veazie v. Marrett*, 6 Allen, 372; *Fisher v. Metcalf*, 7 Allen, 209; *Chenery v. Webster*, 8 Allen, 76. No executor or administrator, in Massachusetts, can be held to

answer to the suit of a creditor of the deceased, if commenced within one year after he gives his bond, unless it is for a demand that would not be affected by the insolvency of the estate, or unless it is brought after the estate has been represented insolvent, for the purpose of ascertaining a contested claim. Genl. Sta. Mass. c. 97, § 16. See *Holden v. Fletcher*, 6 Cush. 235; *Walker v. Walker*, 9 Wallace, 743. An action was brought upon a general debt of a testator, against his executor in his representative capacity. The executor, who was also residuary legatee and had given bond to pay debts and legacies, was subsequently removed, and an administrator *de bonis non* was appointed. The answer of the executor set up merely his removal and that he ought not to be held to answer; it was held that the administrator *de bonis non* was properly allowed to come in and take upon himself the defence of the action, and to file an answer setting up that it was brought within one year from the giving of the bond by the executor; and that this fact, if proved, was a defence to the action. *National Bank of Troy v. Stanton*, 116 Mass. 435; *Ferrand v. Walker*, 5 Blackf. 424; *Granjang v. Merkle*, 22 Ill. 249. As to the force of the expression "a demand that would not be affected by the insolvency of the estate," in the above statute, see the suggestions of Gray C. J. in *National Bank of Troy v. Stanton*, 116 Mass. 439; *Johnson v. Ames*, 11 Pick. 173, 181. As to the plea by administrators that they were not liable to be sued within a fixed period after the death of the intestate, with an averment that the action was commenced within that time, see *Carson v. Bryant*, 2 Brevard, 159; *Reed v. Armistead*, 31 Miss. 353; *Ferrand v. Walker*, 5 Blackf. 424. In *Amoskeag Manuf. Co. v. Barnes*, 48 N. H. 25, 29, it was held that the fact that the action was prematurely brought against an executor, being within one year from the granting of administration,

administrator, as such. (x) And accordingly, if an action is brought against an executor or administrator on a bill or note given by the testator or intestate, and the declaration alleges a promise by the defendant to pay the bill or note, such promise may be denied by a plea of *non assumpsit*, notwithstanding the new rule abolishing the plea of *non assumpsit* to a declaration on a bill or note. (y) However, it is said to have been held, (z) that if the declaration charge the defendant, executor, on a promise made by his testator, and the defendant plead the statute of limitations, to which the plaintiff replies, that the testator did promise within six years; proof on the part of the plaintiff, that the executor promised within six years, and that the testator's death was within this period, will support the count in the declaration; for that the executor's promise shows a liability to pay, existing before the time of the testator's death, and the law will imply a promise by the testator to pay what he was liable to pay. (z<sup>1</sup>)

But it must be observed, that the mere existence of a debt owing by the testator or intestate, is not evidence of a promise to pay by the executor or administrator, as executor or administrator. (a) Hence, as against an executor or administrator, an acknowledgment merely by him of the debt's existence is not sufficient to take the case out of the statute; (a<sup>1</sup>) \*there must be an express promise. (b) Accordingly, in *Tullock v. Dunn*, (c) which

must be pleaded in abatement and not in bar; and for this reason, that this is no bar to the claim but only a suspension of the right of action. An administrator *de bonis non* is obliged to defend at any time after the expiration of a year from the date of the appointment of the first administrator. *Cooley v. Patterson*, 49 Maine, 570.]

(x) See *Browning v. Paris*, 5 M. & W. 190, per Parke B. [But see *Buswell v. Roby*, 8 N. H. 467.]

(y) *Rolleston v. Dixon*, 2 Dowl. & L. 892; *ante*, 1880.

(z) *Poile v. —*, Exor. Sitt. after Tr. T. 1823, *coram* Abbott C. J. 2 Phill. Ev. 351, 6th ed. But this case is omitted in the seventh edition.

(z<sup>1</sup>) [See *Benjamin v. De Groot*, 1 Denio, 151.]

(a) *Atkins v. Tredgold*, 2 B. & C. 28, by Abbott C. J.

(a<sup>1</sup>) [*Knox v. McCall*, 1 Brevard, 531; *Moore v. Parcher*, 1 Bailey Eq. 195. But it has been held in New Hampshire that an admission by an administrator of an existing debt of the intestate, which the administrator was liable and willing to pay, is competent and *prima facie* evidence of a new promise, and takes the claim out of the operation of the general statute of limitations, and part payment is universally recognized as such an admission. *Foster J. in Brewster v. Brewster*, 52 N. H. 52, 60; *Hale v. Roberts*, cited in *Buswell v. Roby*, 8 N. H. 468; *Hodgdon v. White*, 11 N. H. 211.]

(b) *Tullock v. Dunn*, Ryan & M. 417; [*ante*, 1803, note (q)]; *Peck v. Botsford*, 7 Conn. 172; *Hammon v. Huntley*, 4 Cowen,

was an action of *assumpsit* against several executors, who pleaded the general issue and the statute of limitations, Abbott C. J. held, that neither an acknowledgment of the debt by all the executors, nor an express promise by one of them, took the case out of the statute; there ought to have been an express promise by all. (*d*)

And now by stat. 9 Geo. 4, c. 14, s. 1, after reciting the statute of limitations, 21 Jac. 1, c. 16, and the Irish act, 10 Car. 1, it is enacted, that "in actions of debt, or upon the case, grounded upon any simple contract, no acknowledgment or promise by words only shall be deemed sufficient evidence of a new or continuing contract, whereby to take any case out of the operation of the said enactments, or either of them, or to deprive any party of the benefit thereof, unless such acknowledgment or promise shall be made or contained by or in some writing, to be signed by the party chargeable thereby; (*e*) and that where there shall be two or more joint contractors, or executors or administrators of any contractor, no such joint contractor, executor, or administrator shall lose the benefit of the said enactments, or either of them, so as to be chargeable in respect or by reason only of any written acknowledgment or promise made and signed by any other or others of them; provided that nothing herein contained shall alter or take away or lessen the effect of any payment of any principal or interest made by any person whatsoever." (*f*)

493; Cayuga Bank v. Bennett, 5 Hill, 236; Forsyth v. Ganson, 5 Wend. 558; Oakes v. Mitchell, 15 Maine, 360; McIntire v. Morris, 14 Wend. 90. But see Townes v. Ferguson, 20 Ala. 147; Buswell v. Roby, 3 N. H. 467; Deyo v. Jones, 19 Wend. 491; Chambers v. Fennemore, 4 Harring. 368; Buchanan v. Buchanan, 4 Strobb. 63; M'Whirter v. Johnson, 10 Humph. 209; F. & M. Bank v. Leath, 11 Humph. 515.]

(*d*) See, also, 12 M. & W. 514, per Parke B. accord. At all events the promise or payment of the executor, in order to bind his co-executor, must appear to have been made by him in his character of executor. Scholey v. Walton, 12 M. & W. 510. [It has been held in New Jersey, that a sole executor has the power by a new promise to remove the bar of the statute of limitations; and so may all of several executors. So may one of two or

more executors bind an estate by the new promise, and it does not make the representatives personally liable. Shreve v. Joyce, 7 Vroom, 44. See, in this case, the remarks of the court upon Tullock v. Dpnn, and Scholey v. Walton; and the decisions of other states referred to upon the point. See Head v. Mannin, 5 J. J. Marsh. 255; Hord v. Lee, 2 Monr. 131; Emerson v. Thompson, 16 Mass. 429; Johnson v. Beardslee, 15 John. 3; Cann v. Sloan, 25 Md. 575.]

(*e*) Extended to writings signed by stat. 19 & 20 Vict. c. 97, s. 13.

(*f*) In an action by an administratrix, to which the statute of limitations was pleaded, it appeared that the cause of action arose more than six years before, but that within six years the defendant and the agent of the plaintiff had gone over the items of the account, and struck a balance,

\* But it is also provided by the same section, that "in actions to be commenced against two or more such joint contractors, or executors or administrators, if it shall appear at the trial, or otherwise, that the plaintiff, though barred by either of the said recited acts, or this act, as to one or more of such joint contractors, or executors or administrators, shall nevertheless be entitled to recover against any other or others of the defendants, by virtue of a new acknowledgment or promise, or otherwise, judgment may be given and costs allowed for the plaintiff, as to such defendant or defendants, against whom he shall recover, and for the other defendant or defendants against the plaintiff."

With regard to the payment of principal or interest, it was held that a payment by one of the makers of a joint and several promissory note took the case out of the statute, in the same manner as before the statute 9 Geo. 4. (g)

But now by the 14th section of the stat. 19 & 20 Vict. c. 97 (mercantile law amendment act), "where there shall be two or more co-contractors or co-debtors, whether bound or liable jointly only, or jointly and severally, or executors or administrators of any contractor, no such co-contractor \* or co-debtor, executor or administrator, shall lose the benefit of the [statute of limitations],

which the defendant promised verbally to pay; it was objected that this was within the 9 Geo. 4, c. 14. But Vaughan B. said, "I think the plaintiff has shown a good cause of action upon the count on an account stated. She does not go upon the original debt at all. I take the statute to apply in cases where you go for the original debt, and then give some evidence of an acknowledgment to rebut the presumption raised by the statute of limitations, that the debt has been satisfied." *Smith v. Forty*, 4 C. & P. 126. See, also, *Ashby v. James*, 11 M. & W. 542, accord. [Executors and administrators cannot, by any promise in writing or otherwise, or by any part payment, take any claim out of the operation of the statute limiting the time for bringing actions against executors and administrators specially, nor are they at liberty to omit to plead their statute of limitations, in any case where it is applicable. See *ante*, 1803, note (g),

1946, note (u<sup>1</sup>); *Brewster v. Brewster*, 52 N. H. 52, 60. And it has been held that an administrator cannot revive a claim against the estate of the deceased, which was barred by the statute before his decease. *Moore v. Parker*, 1 Bailey Eq. 195. See *ante*, 1804, note (x); *Patterson v. Cobb*, 4 Florida, 481.]

(g) By Parke J. in *Chippendale v. Thurston*, Mood. & M. 411; *Wyatt v. Hodson*, 8 Bing. 309. This was by reason of the proviso that the act shall not lessen the effect of any payment, &c. See, also, *Burleigh v. Stott*, 8 B. & C. 36; *S. C.* 2 Mann. & R. 93; *Channel v. Ditchburn*, 5 M. & W. 494; *Goddard v. Ingram*, 3 Q. B. 839. But an acknowledgment by one only of two joint mortgagees does not entitle the mortgagor to redeem where the mortgagees have been in possession for more than twenty years. *Richardson v. Younge*, L. R. 10 Eq. Ca. 275.

[1948] [1949]

or any of them, so as to be chargeable in respect or by reason only of payment of any principal, interest, or other money by any other or others of such co-contractors or co-debtors, executors or administrators." (h)

But independently of this enactment where an action is brought against the executor of a deceased contractor, a payment by a surviving joint contractor, made *after the death of the testator*, will not take the case out of the statute. Thus, in *Atkins v. Tredgold*, (i) A. and B. made a joint and several promissory note. A. died, and ten years after his death B. paid interest upon the note. In an action brought upon the note against the executors of A., it was held that the payment of interest by B. did not take the case out of the statute of limitations, so as to make A.'s executors liable. Nor will it make any difference that the surviving joint contractor is the executor of the deceased; for it is clear that acts done by a surviving partner, who is executor of the deceased partner, and which the surviving partner was in that character bound to do, cannot, *prima facie*, be considered to have been done in the character of executor. (k) Again, where a joint contract is severed by the death of one of the contractors, nothing can be done by the personal representative of the deceased to take the case out of the statute as against the survivor. (l) Therefore, in *Slater v. Lawson*, (m) it was holden that after the death of one maker of a joint and several promissory note, signed by two, a payment upon it by the executor of the deceased \*party would not take the debt out of the statute of limitations as against the survivor.

In *Douglas v. Forrest*, (n) an action was brought against an executor on a Scotch judgment recovered against his testator. The defendant, after pleading the general issue, pleaded, that the plaintiff's cause of action did not accrue within six years before the commencement of the suit. To this there was a replication, that the deceased, at the time the action accrued, was beyond seas,

(h) This enactment is not retrospective. *Jackson v. Woolley*, 8 El. & Bl. 778, 784. Since the act, payment by one co-contractor, though made with the knowledge and consent of another, will not avail to take the case out of the statute of James as to the latter. *Ib.* [For similar statute in Massachusetts, see Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 155, § 14.]

(i) 2 B. & C. 23.

(k) *Way v. Bassett*, 5 Hare, 55; *Brown v. Gordon*, 16 Beav. 302. But see *Braithwaite v. Britain*, 1 Keen, 206; *Griffin v. Ashley*, 2 Carr. & Kirw. 139.

(l) 1 B. & Ad. 398.

(m) 1 B. & Ad. 396.

(n) 4 Bing. 686; S. C. 1 M. & P. 663.

and remained there till he died, and that the plaintiff sued out his writ against the defendant within six years after he first took on himself the burden and execution of the will. And it was holden that this replication was a good answer to the plea, the court being of opinion, that although the injury of which the plaintiff complained had existed more than six years, yet he had no "cause of action" until there was some person within the realm against whom the action could be brought; and that, as the deceased never was in England after the cause of action accrued against him, there was no person in England against whom the plaintiff could proceed until the defendant took upon him the execution of the will. (o)

\* But it is no answer to a plea of the statute of limitations, that, after the cause of action accrued, and after the statute had begun to run, the debtor, within the six years, died, and that (by reason of litigation as to the right to probate) an executor of his will was not appointed, until after the expiration of the six years, and that the plaintiff sued such executor within a reasonable time after probate granted. (o<sup>1</sup>) For as soon as there is a cause of action, a plaintiff that can sue and a defendant that can be sued in England, from that time the date of six years begins to run; and when the statute once begins to run, it must continue to run. (p)

(o) See, also, *Story v. Fry*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 603, accord. [See *Benjamin v. De Groot*, 1 Denio, 151.] It must be observed that it seems to have been the better opinion, that the exception in the statute 21 Jac. 1, c. 16, in favor of persons being beyond sea, extends only to the case where the *creditors* or *plaintiffs* were so absent, and not where the *debtors* or *defendants* were; because *creditors* are only mentioned in the statute. *Hall v. Wyborn*, 1 Show. 99; 2 Saund. 121 b, note (4). But now by the statute 4 Ann. c. 16, s. 19, it is enacted, that if any person *against whom* any action lies for seaman's wages, trespass, detinue, trover, replevin, action of account, or upon the case (or other actions mentioned in 21 Jac. 1, c. 16, s. 3), was beyond sea at the time that such action accrued, the *plaintiff* shall be at liberty to bring his action against him

within the same time after his return as is limited for such action by the statute of 21 Jac. 1, c. 16, and 4 Ann. c. 16. The latter statute, however, does not appear to have been relied on either by the counsel or court, in the above case of *Douglas v. Forrest*. But the decision is stated by Lord Denman in delivering the judgment of the court of exchequer chamber, in *Rhodes v. Smethurst*, 6 M. & W. 353, to have proceeded on the equity of that statute. See, further, as to the construction of the statute of Anne, *Towns v. Mead*, 16 C. B. 123.

(o<sup>1</sup>) [But see *Boyce v. Foote*, 19 Wisc. 199; *Conant v. Hilt*, 12 Vt. 285.]

(p) *Rhodes v. Smethurst*, 4 M. & W. 42, affirmed in the exchequer chamber, 6 M. & W. 351; S. P. in equity, *Freake v. Craneheldt*, 3 My. & Cr. 499. [See *Mann v. Warner*, 4 Whart. 455; *Warren v. Paff*,

[1951]



Although, where the plaintiff dies, a writ by journey's accounts cannot be brought by his executor, (*q*) yet if a *defendant* dies, the plaintiff may pursue this writ against the personal representative, provided the action be of a nature such as will survive against an executor or administrator; (*r*) and in such case, if the defendant pleads the statute of limitations, the plaintiff may reply a writ newly brought by journey's accounts; (*s*) and the executor of an executor must plead that he had fully administered on the day of the first writ purchased. (*t*) So if the plaintiff commenced

4 Bradf. Sur. 260; *Hagood v. Southgate*, 21 Vt. 584. It is provided by the New York code of procedure that if a person against whom an action may be brought dies before the expiration of the time limited for the commencement thereof, and the cause of action survives, an action may be commenced against his executor or administrator, after the expiration of that time, and within one year after the issuing of letters testamentary or of administration. Code of Pro. § 102. See *Scovil v. Scovil*, 45 Barb. 517. For a similar provision in the statutes of Massachusetts, see *ante*, 1880, note (*e*). The special statute limiting the time for bringing actions against executors and administrators will not run against creditors while administration is suspended on account of the neglect of an executor or administrator to file a proper bond; *Morgan v. Dodge*, 44 N. H. 255; *Abercrombie v. Sheldon*, 8 Allen, 532; nor while the executor or administrator neglects to give the notice required by the statute; *Aiken v. Morse*, 104 Mass. 277; *Clark v. Collins*, 31 Missou. 260; *Clark v. Sexton*, 23 Wend. 477; *Hardy v. Ames*, 47 Barb. 413; *Murray v. Smith*, 9 Bosw. 689; *Smith v. Hall*, 19 Cal. 85; *Bond v. Allen*, Mart. (N. Car.) 83; *Emerson v. Thompson*, 16 Mass. 429, 432; nor during the period of an administration which is revoked upon the discovery of a will of the deceased; the statute of limitations in such case begins to run against claims upon the estate from the time of the qualification of the executor named in the will, or of the administrator with the will annexed, and not from

the time of the grant of the former administration. *Mannus v. Flynn*, 10 Leigh, 93. Lapse of time will not bar the debt so long as the estate is unadministered and the trust subsists. *Foster J. in Brewster v. Brewster*, 52 N. H. 52, 59; *McCandless's Estate*, 61 Penn. St. 9. "Similar reasons and considerations," says Mr. Justice Foster, in *Brewster v. Brewster*, 25 N. H. 59, 60, "must uphold the converse of this proposition, calling for the suspension of the operation of the statute during the period when, letters of administration upon the estate of the creditor not having been taken out, there is no representative of the creditor entitled to bring suit. And such considerations, doubtless, led to the enactment of the seventh section of the statute referred to," to wit, Genl. Sta. N. H. c. 179, § 7, which enacts that "if any right of action existed against or in favor of the deceased at the time of his death, and survives, an action may be brought by or against the administrator at any time within two years after the original grant of administration." See *ante*, 1880, note (*d*).]

(*q*) See *ante*, 1882, note (*m*), for an account of this writ.

(*r*) *Kinsey v. Hayward*, 1 Ld. Raym. 432. But there is some conflict between the authorities on this point. See the judgment of Lord Lyndhurst, in *Davies v. Lowndes*, 6 M. & Gr. 534; 1 Phill. C. C. 340.

(*s*) 1 Ld. Raym. 432; Com. Dig. Abatement, P.

(*t*) *Spencer's case*, 6 Co. 10 b; Doct. Plac. Exors. 2, p. 170, ed. 1677.

an action against the deceased within six years of the accruing of the cause of action, and such action abated by his death, a reasonable time is allowed to the executor \* for bringing a fresh action either according to the principle of the old writ by journey's accounts, or according to an equitable construction of the 4th section of the statute. (u) And the executor, if he use due diligence, is not bound to bring the action within a year from the death of the deceased, *e. g.* if the defendant has made it impossible to do so by delaying to take out administration. (v) The same equitable construction has been applied to the limitation of actions on bonds, &c. imposed by the statute 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 3. (x)

A defendant, sued as executor or administrator, cannot set off a debt due to himself personally; nor, if sued for his own debt, can he set off what is due to him as executor or administrator; because the debts sued for, and intended to be set off, must be mutual, and due in the same right. (y) But it has been held that to a declaration in debt or assumpsit against an executor, or an account stated by him *as executor*, a set-off for debts due from the plaintiff to the testator may well be pleaded; for that an account stated by an executor as such must be taken to show a debt due from his testator to the plaintiff. (z)

Whenever a tender, with *tout temp prist*, is pleaded by an executor or administrator, he must allege that his testator or intestate was at all times, from the time of making the \* promise to the time of his death, ready to pay, and that he, the defendant, has, at all times since the death of his testator or intestate, been ready to pay. (a)

If the executor or administrator has not assets to satisfy the debt, upon which an action is brought against him,

(u) See *ante*, 1883-1885.

(v) *Curlewis v. Mornington*, 7 El. & Bl. 283; S. C. in error, 27 L. J. Q. B. 489.

(x) *Sturgis v. Darell*, 4 H. & N. 622; S. C. in error, 6 H. & N. 120.

(y) *Bishop v. Church*, 3 Atk. 691; *Gale v. Luttrell*, 1 Y. & Jerv. 180. See *ante*, 1876.

(z) *Blakesley v. Smallwood*, 8 Q. B. 538; 11 Ex. 416. But it may be argued that the debt, on which the action is founded, is the debt which arises, after the death of the testator, on the account stated between the executor and the plain-

tiff; and that, therefore, in truth, this case, as well as *Mardall v. Thelluson*, 18 Q. B. 857, 6 El. & Bl. 976, was overruled by *Rees v. Watts*, 11 Ex. 410; *ante*, 1876, note (g). In *Mardall v. Thelluson*, the defendants were sued as executors for a debt which accrued due from their testator in his lifetime, and it was held that they might set off a debt which had accrued due from the plaintiff to them as executors since the death of their testator.

(a) *Clements v. Reynolds*, Sayer, 18.

he must take care to plead *plene administravit*, or *plene administravit præter*, &c. For a judgment against an executor or administrator, whether by default (*a*<sup>1</sup>) or on demurrer, (*b*) or upon verdict upon any plea pleaded by the executor or administrator, except *plene administravit*, or admitting assets to such a sum and *riens ultra*, (*c*) is conclusive upon him that he has assets to satisfy such judgment. (*d*) But if the executor plead either a general or special *plene administravit*, it is now held that he is liable only to the amount of assets proved to be in his hands; though the case was formerly taken to be, that if *any* assets, however small, were proved to be unadministered, the plaintiff was entitled to recover his whole demand from the executor. So that now a judgment against an executor, on a verdict upon *plene administravit*, is only an admission of assets to the extent of assets proved to be in his hands. (*e*)

The essential part of the plea of *plene administravit* is, that "the said defendant has no goods, which were of the said A. B. (the testator), at the time of his death in the hands of the said defendant, as executor, to be administered, or had, at the time of the commencement of the suit, (*f*) or \*ever since;" and the omis-

(*a*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Mason v. Peter*, 1 Munf. 437; *Dickson v. Wilkinson*, 3 How. (U. S.) 57; *Baracliff v. Griscom*, 1 Coxé (N. J.), 165; *Mosier v. Zimmerman*, 5 Humph. 62. So of a judgment by confession. See *People v. Judges of Erie*, 4 Cowen, 445; *Powell v. Myers*, 1 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 502; *Freeland v. Royal*, 2 Hen. & Munf. 575; *Worsham v. McKenzie*, 1 Hen. & Munf. 342.]

(*b*) *Rock v. Leighton*, 1 Salk. 310; S. P. admitted 3 T. R. 686; *Leonard v. Simpson*, 2 Bing. N. C. 176; S. C. 2 Scott, 355.

(*c*) *Ramsden v. Jackson*, 1 Atk. 292; *Erving v. Peters*, 3 T. R. 685. A plea of *non est factum testatoris*, or of a release to the testator, or of payment by him, or *non assumpsit*, admits assets. 1 Saund. 335, note (10).

(*d*) 1 Saund. 219 *b*, note to *Wheatley v. Lane*; [Newcomb v. Goss, 1 Met. 333; *Platt v. Robins*, 1 John. Cas. 278; *Judge of Probate v. Lane*, 50 N. H. 556; *Huger v. Dawson*, 3 Rich. (S. Car.) 328; *Dorsey v. Hammond*, 1 Bland, 463; *Ellicott v.*

*Welch*, 2 Bland, 242; *Post v. Mackall*, 3 Bland, 486; *Lenoir v. Winn*, 4 Desaus. 65. An executor sued in Tennessee on a judgment rendered against him in another state, if he did not plead fully administered in that suit, cannot have the benefit of such plea in Tennessee, but is liable to a judgment *de bonis propriis*. *White v. Archbill*, 2 Sneed, 588. In Illinois, the plea of *plene administravit* is no defence, neither is a judgment an admission of assets; it only establishes a debt against the intestate's estate, and no execution will issue thereon, but it will be paid when there are sufficient assets to pay it. *Judy v. Kelley*, 11 Ill. 211. See *Lee v. Gardner*, 26 Miss. 521.]

(*e*) 1 Saund. 219 *b*, note; *Cousins v. Paddon*, 2 Cr., M. & R. 558, per Parke B.; *Re Higgins's Trusts*, 2 Giff. 562. [See *Coleman v. Hall*, 12 Mass. 570.]

(*f*) See *Rees v. Morgan*, *post*, 1974, as to the effect of using the words "on the day of exhibiting the bill of the plaintiff."

sion of any of the above averments will be fatal on demurrer, as well in a general as a special *plene administravit*. (*f*<sup>1</sup>) As where, in *assumpsit*, the defendant pleaded several outstanding bonds of the testator, "and that he had fully administered all the goods which were of the testator at the time of his death, or ever since, except goods and chattels to the value of 10*l.*, which are not sufficient to satisfy the debts due on the said bonds, and which are charged therewith;" on demurrer, the plea was adjudged bad by the whole court, for want of the intervening clause, "and that he has not any goods or chattels of the testator, or had on the day of the suing out of the writ, or ever since." For the *plene administravit*, as there pleaded, refers to the time of the plea pleaded, and the defendant may have paid debts on contract without suit after the writ purchased and before the plea, which he may give in evidence on the trial, if issue be joined on the *plene administravit* as there pleaded; and therefore the plaintiff has no other remedy but to demur. (*g*) So the omission of the words "or ever since," is held to be an incurable fault; for perhaps the executor had assets after the commencement of the action, with which he would be chargeable; and all the books and precedents direct that those words should be inserted in the pleas. (*h*) And the defect is not aided, unless it be found by verdict that he had no assets on the day of the \*plea pleaded; for that aids the fault in the bar, and makes it not material; but it is not so upon demurrer. (*i*)

In this plea, it is usual to state that the defendant "has fully administered all the goods and chattels, &c. which were of the deceased at the time of his death, and which have ever come to the hands of the defendant as executor," &c.; but it is said that these words are superfluous, and that the more formal and correct way

(*f*<sup>1</sup>) [2 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 384, 385.]

(*g*) *Hewlet v. Framingham*, 3 Lev. 28. So the words, "on the day of exhibiting the bill," where the action was in the common pleas, or in the king's bench by original, instead of "on the day of suing out of the said writ," were adjudged to be a fatal defect. *Covel v. Deval*, 2 Lutw. 1637, 1638; 2 Saund. 216, note (1). See *Rees v. Morgan*, *post*, 1974.

(*h*) *Gewen v. Roll*, Cro. Jac. 132; 2

Saund. 216, note (1). But this has been denied in a modern case. See *Smith v. Tateham*, 2 Ex. 305, *post*, 1982. At all events, it is plain that if assets have come to hand since the suing out of the writ, the plaintiff must reply that fact specially, and will not be allowed to give it in evidence under the ordinary replication to *plene administravit*, viz, that the defendant had assets at the commencement of the suit. *Mara v. Quin*, 6 T. R. 10.

(*i*) Cro. Jac. 132.

of pleading is to omit them and to state merely that the defendant "has no goods or chattels." &c. (*j*)

But in an action brought against the executor of an executor it is not sufficient to plead that the defendant has not any goods or chattels of the original testator in his hands to be administered; but he must also plead, either that the first executor fully administered, or that he the said defendant has no assets of the first executor out of which he can satisfy any *debt* committed by the first executor. (*k*)

Again, an executor is *bound* to plead a debt of a higher nature, of which he has notice, in bar of an action brought against him for a debt of an inferior nature, and *riens ultra*, if he has not assets for both; otherwise it will be an admission of assets to satisfy both debts. (*l*) Thus the executor is bound to plead a judgment recovered against the testator, in bar of an action on a bond; otherwise he will admit that he has assets to satisfy the judgment. (*m*)

In strictness, it is proper, in this plea, to state some certain sum, or at least to say, to "the value of the debts aforesaid;" (*m*<sup>1</sup>) for to plead generally "except goods and chattels which do \*not amount to, or which are not sufficient to satisfy the debts aforesaid, or not *ultra* what will satisfy," or to the like effect, has been held to be insufficient for the uncertainty. (*n*) But the omission of stating a certain sum is mere form neither material nor traversable; (*o*) for if the executor plead a judgment obtained against him for 100*l.*, and that he has not goods except to the value of 5*l.*, and the plaintiff proves that he has 100*l.*, yet he gains nothing; for the

(*j*) 2 Saund. 220 *a*, note (3) to Noell v. Nelson. See Reeves v. Ward, 2 Bing. N. C. 235; S. C. 2 Scott, 396.

(*k*) Wells v. Fyde, 10 East, 315.

(*l*) Rock v. Leighton, 1 Salk. 310; *ante*, 1029; [Shaw v. M'Cameron, 11 Serg. & R. 252.] The law is the same, though the debt was not payable until after the death of the testator, as in the case of a bond conditioned to pay a sum of money on a day which did not happen until after his death. Britton v. Bathurst, 3 Lev. 114; Lemun v. Fooke, Ib. 57; *ante*, 1021.

(*m*) Earle v. Hinton, 2 Stra. 732.

(*m*<sup>1</sup>) [2 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 386.]

(*n*) Tresham's case, 9 Co. 109, 110;

Edgcomb v. Dee, Vaugh. 104; Davage v. Davage, 1 Sid. 210; 1 Saund. 333, note

(7). In an action against an administrator, the defendant, after obtaining time to plead on the usual terms, pleaded a judgment recovered since the commencement of the action, but did not aver that there were no assets *ultra*. And the court of exchequer gave leave to the plaintiff to sign judgment as for want of a plea; the defendant having, since the commencement of the action, admitted by letter the possession of assets sufficient to cover the judgment, and also the plaintiff's demand. Roberts v. Wood, 3 Dowl. 797.

(*o*) Parker v. Atfield, 1 Salk. 312.

substance of the plea is, that the executor has not *above* what will satisfy the judgment. And consequently, the omission is but form, and cannot be taken advantage of upon demurrer. (*p*)

In pleading an unsatisfied judgment recovered against the testator, the plea should state on what day and year of the reign, and in what court the judgment was recovered. (*q*) If the judgment pleaded was recovered against the testator and another, the plea must aver the survivorship of the testator. (*r*)

\* In pleading a judgment against the executor himself, whether on bond or otherwise, it was formerly the practice to set out the debt, which is the consideration of the judgment, in the plea. But this statement is unnecessary. (*s*) Nor is it requisite to aver that the debt, for which the judgment has been obtained, was a true and just debt, although it is usual to make such an allegation; for if the debt was not a just one, the other side may show it in the replication. (*t*) The present form of pleading a judgment obtained against an executor, is to omit stating the nature of the debt, the suing out of the writ, and the plea; but instead thereof to allege that A. B. on such a day and year of the reign in the court, &c. impleaded the defendant as executor in a certain plea, &c. then declaring (so setting out the whole declaration); and such proceedings were thereupon had in the said court, and the said A. B. recovered judgment, &c. (*u*)

An averment that the judgment remains in force, though usually made, seems unnecessary; for the same reason as that mentioned above respecting the allegation, that the debt was not a true and

(*p*) *Moon v. Andrewes*, Hob. 133. If it should seem, pleadable by an executor. the truth be that the executor has not sufficient to satisfy the debts of record *Williams v. Fowler*, 1 Stra. 407, 410.

(*q*) *Jordan v. Fawcett*, 1 Mod. 50; S. (*r*) *Trethewy v. Ackland*, 2 Saund. 50; pleaded by him, he ought to state truly *ante*, 1013.

what good she has, namely, to the value of (*s*) 1 Saund. 329, note (3).

a certain sum which is not sufficient to satisfy these debts. 1 Saund. 333 *a*, note (7). (*t*) 1 Saund. 329, note (4); 2 Saund. 50, note (3).

(*u*) 1 Saund. 330 *a*, note (5). The (*q*) *Jordan v. Fawcett*, 1 Mod. 50; S. C. 1 Sid. 449; 1 Vent. 76; 2 Keb. 632; 1 Saund. 328 *a*, note (1); [2 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 386, 387.] Where an executor pleads a judgment not merely erroneous, but void as a recovery in an impossible term, the plea is bad; *Drake v. Randall*, 1 Freem. 225; but a judgment merely erroneous, if not fraudulent, is, as *Reg. Gen. H. T. 1853*, r. 10, which requires that in a plea of judgment recovered the defendant shall state the number of the roll, &c. in the margin, does not apply to such a plea. *Power v. Fry*, 3 Dowl. 140; *Power v. Izod*, 1 Bing. N. C. 304; S. C. 1 Scott, 119. [See 2 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 387, 388.]

[1957]

just one. (*x*) But where the action is on a specialty, it is necessary to show, either that the judgment pleaded was recovered against the executor on a specialty, or that it was obtained before the executor had notice of the specialty debt on which the action was brought. (*y*)

A recovery against one of several executors or administrators, and no assets *ultra*, may be pleaded in an action \* against all the executors or administrators for another debt of the testator or intestate. (*z*)

It may be observed, that a plea of judgment recovered against the executor himself, and no assets *ultra*, is a plea in bar of the action generally, and not with an *ulterius manutenere non debet*, even where the judgment has been confessed after action brought, (*a*) and pleaded *puis darrein continuance*; contrary, apparently, to the general rule, that a matter of defence, arising after action brought, cannot be properly pleaded in bar of the action generally, but must be pleaded in bar of the further maintenance of the suit. (*b*) But this arises from the peculiar nature of the action, which is brought against the executor, not only on the foundation of a debt due from the testator to the plaintiff, but in respect also of assets, supposed to be in his, the executor's, hands, liable to its satisfaction; and the executor has by law a power of confessing a judgment to another creditor, in preference to the plaintiff, in the suit first brought, and thereby, to the extent of the assets then in hand, to create a perpetual bar to the plaintiff's suit, the same being pleaded in the usual way, viz, that he has not assets except so much, which are not sufficient to satisfy that judgment. But the plaintiff may, and constantly does, avoid the effect of the plea as an absolute bar, and protect himself from costs at the same time, on the ground of his original right of suit, by praying judgment of such assets as should come to the executor's hands, after satisfying the judgment so confessed. So that the plea of judgment recovered against the defendant as executor, pending the writ, inures in point of effect, if the judgment itself be not questioned

(*x*) 1 Saund. 329, note (4). It was once the practice to aver the identity of the defendant and the person named in the record; but this averment is now omitted. 1 Saund. 333 *a*, note (8).

(*y*) See *ante*, 1029.

(*z*) Further *v.* Further, Cro. Eliz. 471; S. C. *semble*, cited by Wyndham J. in Palmer *v.* Lawson, 1 Sid. 334.

(*a*) See *ante*, 1033, 1034.

(*b*) Le Bret *v.* Papillon, 4 East, 502.

by the replication, as only a plea in bar of the further maintenance of the suit against the executor in respect of his present assets. (c)

With respect to pleading bonds due from the testator, it \* has been decided that, at law, the *penalties* are the debts as to those bonds where the days of payment are past, and the bonds of course forfeited. Therefore, an executor may either plead the penalty as the debt, or the sum really due. (d) But with regard to those bonds where the days of payment are not yet come, the sums in the conditions are the debts, and the assets can only be covered for them; (e) for the executor may save the penalty by payment of the less sums at the times specified in the conditions, and if he does not, it will be a *devastavit* in him, if he have assets. (f)

The nature and extent of the right of an executor or administrator to retain a debt due to him from the deceased, have been investigated in a previous part of this treatise. (g) It is held to be optional in the executor or administrator either to *plead* a retainer for such a debt, or to give it in evidence under a plea of *plene administravit*. (h) So he may either plead, or show in evidence under that plea, that he retains assets to a certain amount, for the expenses of the funeral, (i) or of taking out administration, (k) or to reimburse himself for payments, made out of his own pocket, in discharge of debts not inferior in their kind to the debt of the plaintiff, before the commencement of the suit. (l) But \* a retainer for unsatisfied debts of the testator or intestate, of a higher degree than that on which the action is brought, must be pleaded. (m)

plea of retainer:

for debt due from testator to executor:

for disbursements by executor:

for debts outstanding:

(c) 4 East, 508.

(d) *Bank of England v. Morice*, 2 Stra. 1028; S. C. Cas. temp. Hardw. 219; *Cox v. Joseph*, 5 T. R. 307. So on an issue of what is due, such bonds will cover as much assets as the penalties amount to. *Ib.*; 1 Saund. 333 a, note (7).

(e) 2 Stra. 1028; Cas. temp. Hardw. 219; 5 T. R. 307.

(f) 1 Saund. 333 a, note (7). The court, however, always recommends that executors who plead judgments and other debts, with penalties, should show honestly how much is really due on them, and set out the conditions; which would save many suits in chancery; for if the penal-

ties only are pleaded, the creditor cannot learn the nature of the bond, but by filing a bill for a discovery. 5 T. R. 309; 1 Saund. 333 a, note (7).

(g) *Ante*, 1039 *et seq.* [See 2 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 389.]

(h) 1 Saund. 333, note (6). See *Jones v. Harry*, 4 Price, 89, as to the form of pleading a retainer for a specialty debt.

(i) See *R. v. Wade*, 5 Price, 621, as to the form of such a plea.

(k) *Gillies v. Smither*, 2 Stark. N. P. C. 528.

(l) Co. Lit. 283 a; Bull. N. P. 140.

(m) *Ante*, 1029, 1030; Bull. N. P. 141.



In a plea of retainer by an *administrator*, he need not set out form of the letters of administration; for the plaintiff by his plea of *retainer*. declaration admits him to be a lawful administrator; since he sues him as administrator, which he cannot be in his own wrong. (*n*) But where the action is brought against the defendant as executor, which is the case as well where the defendant is charged as rightful executor, as where he is charged as executor *de son tort* who has no right to retain, (*o*) it seems that, regularly, he ought to entitle himself as executor in his plea, by stating the making of the will and his appointment as executor therein, in order that it may appear that he is such a person as may retain. (*p*) So where the action was brought against the defendant, as executor, and he claimed to retain as *administrator*, it was held that it was necessary for him to show the letters of administration in his plea. (*q*)

Where an executor pleads that he has no assets *ultra* a judgment, which, in truth, was recovered against him upon an unjust or fictitious debt, the plaintiff may reply, that the judgment was had and obtained by fraud and covin between the executor and the creditor. (*r*) But the plaintiff cannot traverse the averment that the debt, for which the judgment was had, was a just and true debt. (*s*)

So the plaintiff may reply that the judgment is kept on \*foot by covin to defraud the creditors, viz, "that the said defendant defers procuring acknowledgment of satisfaction to be entered of the said debt and damages, so recovered, &c. with intent to defraud him the said plaintiff." As where the executor compounds for a less sum and does not procure the judgment to be discharged, but pleads it to an action brought against him by another creditor, he may reply the composition, and that the judgment is kept on

(*n*) Picard v. Brown, 6 T. R. 550; *ante*, 266, note (*y*).

(*o*) See *ante*, 269, 270.

(*p*) Prince v. Rowson, 1 Mod. 208; 2 Mod. 51. [Where one sued as executor relies upon a retainer, he must produce the letters testamentary and show that he is rightful executor. Partee v. Caughran, 9 Yerger, 460.]

(*q*) Caverley v. Ellison, T. Jones, 23; [2 Chitty Pl. (16th Am. ed.) 389.]

(*r*) Williams v. Fowler, 1 Stra. 410; 2 Saund. 50, note (3).

(*s*) Robinson v. Corbett, 1 Lutw. 662, by Powell J.; 2 Saund. 50, note (3). Indeed, it is not necessary for an executor who pleads an outstanding judgment, to aver that the debt, upon which the judgment was obtained, was a just and true debt. *Ante*, 1957. See, however, Green v. Wilcocks, Cro. Eliz. 462; Trethewy v. Ackland, 2 Saund. 48 a; Com. Dig. Pleader, 2 D. 9.

foot by covin; for nothing shall be allowed to the executor but what he actually pays. (t)

The executor, in his rejoinder to replications of this description, is bound to traverse the fraud. (u) And the plaintiff may, upon this issue, give in evidence, either that the debt is not a just one, or that less is due than the sum for which judgment has been given. (x)

In answer to the latter evidence, which is *prima facie* proof of fraud, the defendant may show that the judgment was entered for more than was due, by mistake. (y) If a judgment is pleaded, and *per fraudem* replied, upon which issue is taken, and it appears in evidence that the creditor was willing to take less than is recovered, it is proof of fraud; but if it be shown that the administrator had not assets to pay that sum, it is no fraud. (z) It should be observed, that where a judgment is obtained against an executor by covin, but for a just debt, the creditor cannot \*avoid the judgment by alleging that it was obtained by covin to defraud him. (a)

When the judgments or debts pleaded by the executor are upon *penalties*, it seems the right of way of replying is, to say that the creditor would have accepted the less sums, but the defendant either would not pay or had paid them, but *kept the judgments or bonds on foot by fraud and covin*. And the plaintiff, on issue joined thereon, may give in evidence such matter as will serve to avoid the penalties. For if he replies generally that the judgments were for less sums, and the defendant has assets above what will satisfy them, on the issue that he has not, the defendant has a right to insist on the *penalties* as the debts. (b)

(t) 1 Saund. 334, note (9); *ante*, 1841, 1843.

(u) *Veale v. Gatesdon*, W. Jones, 92; *Parker v. Atfield*, 1 Ld. Raym. 678; 1 Saund. 324, note (9); 2 Saund. 50, note (3). The other averments in the replication, such as the allegation of the payment of the money in satisfaction of the judgment, are only inducement and not traversable. *Veale v. Gatesdon*, W. Jones, 92, 5th Resolution; *Beaumont's case*, Latch, 111; 1 Saund. 334, note (9); *Jones v. Roberts*, 2 Cr. & M. 219; S. C. 4 Tyrwh. 48. But the executor is at liberty, where several judgments have been

pleaded by him either to traverse that each particular judgment was kept up by fraud, or to include all the judgments pleaded in one general traverse. *Beake v. Kent*, Carth. 195; S. C. 4 Mod. 64; 1 Saund. 334, note (9).

(x) 2 Saund. 50, note (3).

(y) *Pease v. Naylor*, 5 T. R. 80.

(z) *Per curiam*, in *Parker v. Atfield*, 1 Salk. 312.

(a) *Veale v. Gatesdon*, W. Jones, 92, 3d Resolution; *Williams v. Fowler*, 1 Stra. 410; 1 Saund. 334, note (9). See *ante*, 1033, 1034.

(b) *Thompson v. Hunt*, 3 Lev. 368;

With respect to the question whether the plaintiff, by avoiding any one of the judgments stated in the plea, will be entitled to recover judgment in the action, it must be observed, that if an executor pleads several judgments recovered *against himself*, and one of them is ill pleaded, or upon issue joined is found against the executor, the plaintiff is entitled to judgment; and the reason is, that if one or \*twenty judgments be recovered against an executor himself, whether by default, or by verdict finding them on *plene administravit*, it is an admission of assets to satisfy them all. (c) And, therefore, as the judgments pleaded admit assets so far, if any one of them be falsified, the executor does of course admit by his plea that he has more assets than will satisfy the other judgments, by as much as the judgment so falsified amounts to. (d) And in such case the plaintiff will be equally entitled, though the plea alleges that the defendant has but a small sum not sufficient to satisfy all the judgments; for the allegation is not material. (e)

But the reason above stated does not apply to a plea in which the executor pleads several outstanding judgments obtained *against his testator*; for a judgment obtained against the testator is no admission of assets by the executor; and, therefore, there seems no ground upon which an executor ought to be subjected to a general judgment for the whole, because one of the judgments averred to have been recovered against the testator is ill pleaded, or found

*Bell v. Bolton*, 1 Lutw. 450; 1 Saund. 334, note (9). If the defendant pleads several outstanding debts on judgments and bonds, and that he has no assets beyond what will satisfy those debts, the plaintiff is allowed to reply to every judgment or other debt or payment pleaded, or some or one of them, omitting the rest, without being considered guilty of duplicity in pleading. 1 Saund. 337 b, note (2). This is an anomalous case, for according to the general rules of pleading, the replication would be considered double, and so open to special demurrer (now abolished by the C. L. P. Act), if it be true that by avoiding *any one* of the judgments in the plea, the plaintiff will be entitled to recover judgment *de bonis testatoris*, and by replying to each he tenders several issues, where one is sufficient to defeat the

defendant's plea. *Turner's case*, 8 Co. 132; *Trethewy v. Ackland*, 2 Saund. 49, 50; *Jefferies v. Dee*, 1 Lev. 281; *Ashton v. Sherman*, 1 Ld. Raym. 263; S. C. 1 Salk. 298; *Carth. 431*; 1 Saund. 337 b, note (2). But the better way is to answer only such judgment as the plaintiff knows to have been obtained by fraud. 2 Saund. 337 b, note (2).

(c) *Rock v. Leighton*, 1 Salk. 310.

(d) 1 Saund. 337, note (1). According to the case of *Harrison v. Beccles*, cited in *Irving v. Peters*, 3 T. R. 688, judgment shall not be entered up for the whole debt, but only for the sum to which the assets thus admitted shall amount. See *infra*, 1976, 1977, and 1 Saund. 336, note to *Hancock v. Prowd*.

(e) *Parker v. Atfield*, 1 Salk. 312.

to be false. Where, indeed, the executor pleads several judgments, and that he *has only assets sufficient to satisfy them*, if the plaintiff can falsify any one of the judgments, as by showing it satisfied, or the like, he will be entitled to judgment; for the plea was false, and the falsehood detrimental to the plaintiff, and beneficial to the defendant. For as one of the judgments was falsified, the executor has confessed that he has more assets than will satisfy other judgments, by as much as the judgment so satisfied amounts to. (f) But the cases have gone farther than this; for there \* are several authorities to show that where the executor pleads several judgments recovered against the testator, and *avers that he has assets to a small amount named in the plea*, yet the rule is, that if the plea be false or bad in part, it shall be wholly set aside. (g) Thus, in *Norton v. Harvey*, (h) which was adjudged in K. B. and affirmed in the exchequer chamber, where the defendant pleaded several judgments obtained against the testator, and among others a judgment against the testator and one A. B., but did not aver that A. B. died before the testator, so that it did not appear that the defendant was liable to that judgment; *although he averred that he had assets to a small sum*, yet for this defect the plea was adjudged insufficient and bad in the whole, and judgment given against the defendant *de bonis testatoris* generally, and all the judgments which were well pleaded set aside. (i)

Yet, notwithstanding these cases, it seems to be contrary to common sense and justice that there should be a judgment against an executor who has no assets to satisfy the debt in demand, merely because his plea is mispleaded, or one of the judgments is false. (k)

(f) 1 Saund. 337, note (1). So in *Campion v. Bentley*, 1 Esp. 344, an administrator pleaded a retainer for a debt due to himself, and a judgment obtained by another creditor, and *nil assets ultra*. The replication denied that the sum sought to be retained was justly due, and, as to the judgment, alleged that it was obtained and kept on foot by fraud. Upon issue joined on these two points, Eyre C. J. told the jury that they were to inquire whether the defendant had pleaded a false plea or not, and if they believed either of the demands set up against the

intestate's estate to be unfounded, they ought to find a verdict for the plaintiff.

(g) *Trethewy v. Ackland*, 2 Saund. 48.

(h) Cited in 2 Saund. 50.

(i) See, also, *S. P. Parker v. Atfield*, 1 Salk. 312; *S. C.* 1 *Ld. Raym.* 678; *R. v. Dickinson*, *Parker's Rep.* 263; 1 Saund. 337, note (1).

(k) 1 Saund. 337, note (1). It is certain that the executor must ultimately pay out of his own pocket the debt and costs so recovered; for he may be compelled so to do by *scire fieri* on the judgment, or action

Accordingly, Lord Vaughan, in his judgment in *Edgecombe v. Dee*, (l) finds fault with this \*rule, and says, that the entirety of the plea, which is the only foundation of it, is a *spungy* reason, and not sense; for if the falsehood or badness of the plea be neither hurtful to the plaintiff nor beneficial to the defendant, why should the plaintiff *have* what he ought not, or the defendant *pay* what he ought not? (m) Besides, the usual pleading is, that the plaintiff must avoid all payments pleaded in bar, until some assets appear remaining in the executor's hands, and then the plaintiff is to have judgment. (n)

Perhaps, therefore, the rule may be understood thus: that if the executor pleads judgments obtained against *his testator*, and that he has not sufficient to satisfy them, or any of them, if any one or more of the judgments be avoided, still there ought not to be a general judgment against the executor, or at least, not until so many are avoided as to leave assets in the executor's hands. But if he pleads judgments obtained *against himself*, and any more of them be avoided, in that case there ought to be a general judgment for the plaintiff. (o)

If an executor or administrator pleads *plene administravit*, and the plaintiff replies that the defendant had assets at the commencement of the suit, whereupon issue is joined, the burden of proof lies upon the plaintiff, who must prove that assets existed, or ought to have existed, in the hands of the defendant at the time of the writ sued out. (p) The question, as to what shall be considered assets come to the hands of the executor or administrator, has been already discussed. (q)

of debt suggesting a *devastavit*. See *infra*, 1984 *et seq.*

(l) *Vaugh.* 104, 105.

(m) 1 *Saund.* 337, note (1).

(n) *Vaugh.* 105; 1 *Saund.* 337, note (1).

(o) 1 *Saund.* 337 *a*, note (1). See *Cousins v. Paddon*, 2 Cr., M. & R. 558, per Parke B. acc.

(p) *Mara v. Quin*, 6 T. R. 10; *Webster v. Blackman*, 2 Fost. & F. 490; [*Marquis v. Rogers*, 8 Blackf. 118; *Wallace v. Barlow*, 3 Bibb (Ky.), 169; *Bentley v. Bentley*, 7 Cowen, 701; *Ely v. Horine*, 5 Dana, 398; *Shannon v. Dinkins*, 2 Strobb. 196.]

(q) *Ante*, 1667 *et seq.* In *Britton v. Jones*, 3 Bing. N. C. 676, upon a plea of *plene administravit* and replication of assets in hand at the time of the commencement of the suit, it appeared at the trial that the testator, twelve months before his decease, purchased twelve mahogany chairs, which were seen in the house where he lived shortly before his death. The defendant proved that the deceased died poor, that he lodged in the same house with his mother and his sister, the defendant; and that money was borrowed to bury him. It was contended that, as it

\* The plaintiff cannot prove, under this issue, that assets have been received subsequently to the commencement of the suit; to be admitted to such proof, he should have replied this matter specially. (r)

If, upon the issue of *plene administravit*, it shall appear that the executor or administrator has been guilty of a *devastavit*, which has caused a failure of assets, the jury must find that the defendant has assets to that amount, and not find a *devastavit*. (s)

In order to prove assets, the plaintiff may give in evidence the inventory exhibited by the defendant in the court of probate. (s<sup>1</sup>) And after the inventory is put in, it is for the defendant to discharge himself of the items. (t)

had not been proved that the furniture in question ever came to the hands of the defendant, there was no evidence to charge her with it as assets; but the court of C. P. held that there was a *prima facie* case for that purpose. See, also, *Stroud v. Dandridge*, 1 Car. & K. 445.

(r) *Mara v. Quinn*, 6 T. R. 11; 2 Phill. Ev. 347, 6th ed.; *Roscoe v. 59*, 4th ed. But it has been lately denied that such a replication is allowable. See *ante*, 1954, note (A); *post*, 1982, note (a).

(s) *Wentw. Off. Ex. c. 13*, p. 312, 14th ed. This finding by the jury of assets in the hands of the executor is not against truth, though they be wasted, and so not to be had in kind; for the executor had them in right, since he has not rightfully parted from them according to the rule, *pro possessore habetur qui dolo aut injuriâ desit possidere*. *Ib.* See *Reeves v. Ward*, 2 Bing. N. C. 235; S. C. 2 Scott, 296.

(s<sup>1</sup>) [In an action against an administrator, upon an issue of fully administered, the plaintiff may prove assets not included in the inventory, or, where there is no inventory returned, may show assets in the hands of the administrator. *Marr v. Rucker*, 1 Humph. 348.]

(t) *Giles v. Dyson*, 1 Stark. N. P. C. 32. [See *Hoover v. Miller*, 6 Jones (Law), 79; *Cameron v. Cameron*, 15 Wis. 1; *Brigg's Appeal*, *Brayt. (Vt.)* 149. In a state where it was the duty of the administrator to inventory real estate, his inven-

tory, when returned and filed, is to be considered *prima facie* as embracing all the land belonging to the deceased. *Reed v. Gilbert*, 32 Maine, 519; *Morrill v. Foster*, 33 N. H. 379. But this is a mere presumption, and an omission to include all the property of the deceased may be accounted for where the circumstances are sufficient. *Walker v. Walker*, 25 Geo. 76; *McWillie v. Van Vacter*, 35 Miss. 428. The inventory is not conclusive either for or against the executor or administrator or his sureties, but is open to denial or explanation. *Nabb v. Nixon*, 7 Nev. 163.] It is said in *Bull. N. P. 140*, that the plaintiff cannot give in evidence a copy of an inventory delivered by the defendant to the spiritual court, unless it be signed by him, though it be signed by the appraisers. But it should seem that any clear recognition of the instrument as an inventory would be tantamount in effect to signature. [*Carrol v. Connet*, 2 J. J. Marsh. 195. See *Parks v. Rucker*, 5 Leigh, 149; *Carr v. Anderson*, 2 Hen. & Munf. 361. The inventory is *prima facie* evidence of the value of the property, as well as of what assets have come into the hands of the executor or administrator, and if he has disposed of any of the property, he is *prima facie* liable for the amount of money at which it was inventoried. But the valuation of the estate, as made by the appraisers, is not conclusive against the executor or administra-

In Shelly's case, (u) Lord Holt said, that all sperate debts mentioned in the inventory shall be accounted assets in the executor's hands; for that is as much as to say that they may be had for demanding, unless the demand or refusal be proved. (u<sup>1</sup>) Again, in Smith v. Davies, (x) Lord Hardwicke held, \*that if in the inventory produced the article concerning debts does not distinguish between sperate and desperate, it will be sufficient to charge the executor with the whole *primâ facie* as assets, and put upon him to prove any of them desperate, (x<sup>1</sup>) as if the article were, "Item, for debts due and owing, which I admit myself to be charged with when recovered or received." (y) And the authority of these cases appears to have been recognized and acted

tor; he may prove it too high. Ames v. Downing, 1 Bradf. Sur. 321. See Montgomery v. Dunning, 2 Bradf. Sur. 220. So on the other hand, if it is shown that the property inventoried has been disposed of for more than the inventory price, the executor or administrator is liable for the amount it was sold for. Willoughby v. McCluer, 2 Wend. 608. And where assets are taken by the executor or administrator at the value as appraised in the inventory, if it is shown that they are of greater value than that price, he must answer for the true value. Zilkin v. Carhart, 3 Bradf. Sur. 376. It is provided by statute in Massachusetts that executors and administrators shall make no profit by the increase and sustain no loss by the decrease or destruction without their fault, of any part of the estate. If they sell any part of the personal estate for more than the appraised value, they shall account for the excess; and if they sell any for less than the appraised value, they shall be allowed for the loss, if it appears to the probate court that the sale was expedient and for the interest of all concerned in the estate. Genl. Sts. c. 98, § 2. And they are chargeable with all interest, profit, and income that come to their hands from the personal estate of the deceased. Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 98, § 7; ante, 974, note (a<sup>1</sup>), 1841, and note (k).]

(u) 1 Salk. 296.

(u<sup>1</sup>) [But where an administrator in-

ventories a debt as desperate, he will not be charged with it except upon proof that he has, or might have, collected it. Finch v. Ragland, 2 Dev. Eq. 137; ante, 981, note (o). And by statute, in Massachusetts, in no case will an executor or administrator be charged with debts inventoried as due to the deceased, if it appears to the probate court that they remain uncollected without his fault. Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 98, § 6.]

(x) Bull. N. P. 140; S. C. Selwyn's N. P. 779, note, 6th ed.

(x<sup>1</sup>) [A debt returned in the inventory of an executor or administrator without comment, will be presumed to have been collected in full, unless the contrary is proved. Graham v. Davidson, 2 Dev. & Bat. Eq. 155; Hickman v. Kamp, 3 Bush (Ky.), 205; ante, 1966, note (u<sup>1</sup>). And where the debt is returned "desperate," it is not necessary for a creditor suing such executor or administrator to show that the debt was due to the testator; it is sufficient for him to prove that the debtor was solvent, in order to throw upon the executor or administrator the burden of showing that the debts could not be collected. Huntingdon v. Spears, 3 Ired. (Law) 450.]

(y) The defendant proved, by a witness, who went to demand several of them, that he could not recover them, and accordingly they were allowed as desperate. Selw. ubi supra.

upon in the common pleas, in a case in the time of Dallas C. J. (z) But in *Gyles v. Dyson*, (a) where on the trial of an issue joined on a plea of *plene administravit*, it was contended, on the authority of *Smith v. Davies*, that certain debts which the defendant had, in an inventory exhibited in the ecclesiastical court, allowed to be due to the estate and which he did not represent to be desperate, were to be considered as actual assets in his hands, Lord Ellenborough said, "You must prove, presumptively at least, that these debts have been paid; that presumption may depend on the time and a number of other circumstances; but upon the plea of *plene administravit* it is necessary to prove that effects came into the hands of the defendant; this is the universal practice." (b)

With reference to the effect of an inventory, as an admission of assets, there seems to be a material difference between the inventory, which according to the old practice of the prerogative court of Canterbury, and the continued practice of some country jurisdictions, is exhibited *before probate*, (c) and the deliberate inventory which is exhibited by an executor or administrator on the citation of a party interested in the estate, (d) or spontaneously before a final settlement. (e) \* In *Stearn v. Mills*, (f) which was an action of debt against executors on a testator's bond, the defendant Mills pleaded *plene administravit*, and there was judgment by default against the defendant Mrs. Wright. At the trial at the Suffolk Lent Assizes, 1832, it appeared that the testator died in 1816, and that the will was proved by both defendants, *on which occasion* an inventory of the effects was exhibited in the ecclesiastical court. Mrs. Wright produced it, but Mills was present and acquiesced, though without saying anything, and neither signed it. The inventory comprised only the stock upon the farm occupied by the testator at the time of his death, amounting in value to 1,105*l.*; there were other effects, and likewise debts and moneys of the testator, which were not included. No other inventory appeared ever to have been exhibited. Mrs. Wright continued in the occupation and management of the farm (according to the desire of the testator) till 1830. Mills knew of her doing so, and was himself occasionally at the farm; but it was not shown that any of the

(z) *Young v. Cawdrey*, 8 Taunt. 734; S. C. *nomine Young v. Cordery*, 3 B. Moore, 69.

(a) 1 Stark. N. P. C. 32.

(b) See *ante*, 1669, 1670.

(c) See *ante*, 974.

(d) See *ante*, 975 *et seq.*; *post*, ch. III.

(e) See *ante*, 975, note (d).

(f) 4 B. & Ad. 657; S. C. 1 Nev. & M. 434.



effects actually came into his hands. Upon these facts, the court of king's bench was of opinion that there was no proof of assets received as against Mills, and that he was entitled to a verdict. And Lord Denman C. J. in giving judgment said, "I am of opinion that the inventory, *delivered by an executor on proving the will*, is not, in itself, evidence of assets having come to his hands; and the fact, in this case, of Mills having occasionally gone to the farm, is not sufficient to affect him with liability as an executor having had possession of the property." Littledale J. said, "It is not necessary here to consider whether an inventory, in some cases, may or may not be evidence of assets received; it was not so under the circumstances of this case. It was, indeed, stated here, that nothing came to the hands of Mills; but I do not agree in the general proposition, that an executor, who has exhibited an inventory, is bound to show that he \*received no assets; because, even if that did not appear, I think an inventory, exhibited as this was, would be no evidence against him. An executor is not obliged, before proving the will, to go into any distant country, where effects of the testator may be, to ascertain their real value; it is sufficient if he receives such information as he is able to obtain, and then exhibits an inventory to show as far as possible the amount of the property to be administered; one object of which is, to ascertain the fees to be taken on the probate, pursuant to the statute 21 Hen. 8, c. 5. There may be goods in the hands of a factor, who may prove insolvent; it cannot be said that an executor, by including them in the inventory, charges himself with them as assets." Parke J.: "Assuming that the inventory here was exhibited by both defendants, of which I have some doubt, it could be only *prima facie* evidence. (*f*<sup>1</sup>) I will not say whether such an inventory as this would not be *prima facie* evidence, since it related wholly to effects which were upon the farm, and did not include any debts. But if so, the evidence was clearly rebutted, by proof that *Mills* never did, in fact, take possession. To say generally that the mere circumstance of having joined in an inventory for the purpose of obtaining probate renders an executor liable, would be going farther than is warranted by any authority." (*f*<sup>2</sup>)

(*f*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Carr v. Anderson*, 2 Hen. & Munf. 361; *Rogers v. Chandler*, 3 Munf. 65.] (*f*<sup>2</sup>) [See *Serret v. Labaune*, 15 La. Ann. 186. And on the other hand, an executor or administrator is not to be charged with

The amount of the probate stamp is *admissible* in evidence, on the issue joined on a plea of *plene administravit*. (g) And the court of king's bench, in *Foster v. Blakelock*, (h) held that the probate stamp was *prima facie* evidence that the executor had assets to the amount covered by the stamp. (i) But this decision, it should seem, must now be considered as overruled. In the above mentioned case of *Stearn v. Mills*, Littledale J. and Parke J. expressed their dissent \*from it. And in the subsequent case of *Mann v. Lang*, (k) Littledale J. said that he could not say that the stamp on the probate was not admissible; but it was not *prima facie* evidence of the amount of assets. In the same case Lord Denman expressed his opinion, that if there be evidence of a long acquiescence by the executor, without re-demanding any of the duty, it is *prima facie* evidence of such amount; though it is not of itself evidence of such amount. But Patterson J. was of opinion that it is not such *prima facie* evidence, even if a long acquiescence is shown. This subject has lately been again considered in the court of chancery, in the case of *Lazonby v. Rawson*, (l) where Lord Cranworth C. in giving judgment, said, "The circumstance of an executor having paid probate duty up to a particular amount, may be *prima facie* evidence of his having thought that the testator had died possessed of property represented by the amount of the stamp duty paid. But the probate duty is, in the first instance, payable on the whole of the personal estate left by the testator. If it cannot all be got in, and it should be ascertained that it was not of the value represented, in such a case provision is made for enabling the executor to get a return of the amount overpaid. Where, therefore, an executor has not made any application for the return of the duty which he may have paid in excess, it is a step in evidence towards proving an admission of assets to the amount, though by no means conclusive evidence that the executor had made a correct estimate of the testator's property. Much might depend on the amount overpaid, and the pecuniary condition in life of the executor, whether he would

debts due the estate, which he has not received or lost by neglect, merely because of an omission to insert them in the inventory. *McCall v. Peachy*, 3 Munf. 288; *Connelly's Appeal*, 1 Grant (Penn.), 366.]

(g) *Mann v. Lang*, 3 Ad. & El. 699; S. C. 5 Nev. & M. 202.

(h) 5 B. & C. 328; S. C. 6 D. & R. 46.

(i) See, also, *Curtis v. Hunt*, 1 C. & P. 180, where Lord Tenterden ruled to the same effect.

(k) 3 Ad. & El. 699; 5 Nev. & M. 20.

(l) 4 De G., M. & G. 556; 2 Sm. & G. 267.

be at the trouble of getting a return of the excess of duty overpaid. Here the executor paid 40*l.* in respect of probate duty, and never got back any of it, and I think it certainly amounts to strong presumptive evidence that he had received assets to the extent covered by that \* amount of duty ; but it is not an absolute admission that he did."

An admission by the defendant, that a debt is a just debt, or a promise to pay it as soon as he can, is not evidence to charge him with assets; for such an admission must be understood with a reasonable intendment, and the executor could not mean to pledge himself to commit a *devastavit*, by paying this debt before others of a higher nature. (*m*) But if an executor compound with the creditors, and afterwards at the suit of any of them plead *plene administravit*, proof of the composition would be conclusive proof of assets, and the court would not suffer him to give evidence of no assets. (*n*) However, an executor will not admit assets by paying interest on a bond due from the testator ; (*o*) for it would be unreasonable that he should be liable for the whole debt, by paying a part out of his own funds, or that, because he has enough in his hands to pay the interest, he should be thereby concluded from disputing assets for the principal. (*p*)

In addition to the proof of assets, it will be necessary for the plaintiff, in an action of *assumpsit*, to prove the amount of the debt, otherwise he shall recover but 1*l.* damages ; for the plea only admits a debt, but not the amount. (*q*) But the rule is different in an action of debt, where a specific debt is demanded ; as, in an action of debt, if the defendant plead *plene administravit*, without pleading also *nunquam indebitatus*, there the debt is admitted by the plea and need not be proved. (*r*)

\* In answer to the proof of assets, the executor or administrator evidence for executor that may show under the issue joined on *plene administravit*, (*s*) that he has exhausted the assets, by discharging

(*m*) *Hindsley v. Russell*, 12 East, 232 ; 2 Phill. Ev. 348, 6th ed. If the executor refers a party to a third person for information respecting the effects of the testator, it should seem that an admission of assets by such third person will bind the executor. *Williams v. Innes*, 1 Camp. 364.

(*n*) Bull. N. P. 145.

(*o*) *Cleverley v. Brett*, cited by Buller J. 5 T. R. 8 ; 2 Phill. Ev. 348, 6th ed.

(*p*) See, further, as to what is an admission of assets, *post*, ch. II.

(*q*) *Shelly's case*, 1 Salk. 296.

(*r*) 2 Phill. Ev. 348, 6th ed. ; *Saunderson v. Nicholle*, 1 Show. 81 ; Bull. N. P. 140.

(*s*) Or on a plea of want of assets, without any averment of *plene administravit*. *Reeves v. Ward*, 2 Bing. N. C. 235 ; S. C. 2 Scott, 396 ; *ante*, 1955.

[1971] [1972]

other demands on the estate, not inferior in their nature to that of the plaintiff, (*t*) or even by the payment of debts of inferior degree, without notice of the plaintiff's demand. (*u*) Again, the executor may show that he has disbursed the assets in the expenses of the funeral, or of probate, (*x*) or administration, or, as it should seem, in the reasonable charges of collecting the debts of the deceased. (*y*) So he may show that he has retained money in his hands to pay for the expenses of administration, to which he has made himself liable, without proving that he has paid them. (*z*)

Where the executor shows payments made by him to the extent of the assets proved by the plaintiff to have come to his hands, the plaintiff may show, in answer, that the funds so applied did not come to the defendant as executor, but were handed to him in trust to pay the testator's debts, and were not part of the assets first proved to have come to his hands. (*a*)

The defendant cannot, under a plea of *plene administravit*, \*give evidence of the existence of outstanding debts of a higher nature; such defence must be pleaded. (*b*)

(*t*) See *ante*, 1032 *et seq.*

(*u*) *Chelsea Water Works Company v. Cowper*, 1 Esp. N. P. C. 277; *ante*, 1028. But according to the judgment of Lawrence J. in *Hickey v. Hayter*, 6 T. R. 388, these payments without notice must be pleaded.

(*x*) It is a question for the jury whether the executor has committed a *devastavit* by swearing the property above its value without reasonable ground, and so incurring a greater stamp duty than was requisite, seeing that the executor is bound to act promptly, and therefore is not to be held to too close a search for the testator's property. *Jackson v. Bowley*, C. & M. 97.

(*y*) *Giles v. Dyson*, 1 Stark. N. P. C. 32. But he cannot be allowed for disbursements in the schooling, feeding, and clothing of the children of the testator, subsequently to his decease. *Ib.*

(*z*) See *ante*, 1960; *Gillies v. Smither*, 2 Stark. N. P. C. 528. [By statute of Massachusetts, if it appears after the settlement of the administration accounts in the probate court that the whole estate

and effects which have come to the hands of the executor or administrator have been exhausted in paying the charges of administration, the allowance to the widow or minor children of the deceased, and the charges of his last sickness and funeral, or any other debts or claims entitled by law to a preference over the common creditors of the deceased, such settlement shall be a sufficient bar to any action brought against the executor or administrator by a creditor who is not entitled to such preference, although the estate has not been represented insolvent. *Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 97, § 20*. See *Hildreth v. Marshall*, 7 Gray, 167. The administrator of an insolvent estate can defend a suit brought against him for a debt due from his intestate, only by showing an account of administration, settled in the probate court, or by regular proceedings in insolvency. *Cushing v. Field*, 9 Met. 180. See *Stuckey v. Bellah*, 41 Ala. 700.]

(*a*) *Marston v. Downes*, 1 Ad. & El. 31; 6 C. & P. 381.

(*b*) *Bull. N. P.* 141; 1 Saund. 333 *a*,

Again, the defendant cannot show, in answer to proof of assets, that he has applied them in the payment of debts since the commencement of the suit; for under *plene administravit*, no payments, made after the action commenced, can be given in evidence. (c) If, therefore, the executor has paid other creditors of superior degree after action commenced, he must plead that matter specially, and if he has paid other creditors of equal degree, since the writ issued, without having had notice of the suit, he ought to plead specially *plene administravit* before notice. (d)

In *Rees v. Morgan*, (e) after the passing of the act for the uniformity of process, 2 W. 4, c. 39, which directs that all personal actions shall be commenced by writ of summons, an executrix pleaded, to an action of assumpsit, *plene administravit*, and no assets on the day of exhibiting the bill of the plaintiff. The plaintiff in his replication tendered issue in the words of the plea. And the court of king's bench held, that the words *exhibiting the bill*, upon these pleadings, meant the commencement of the suit by writ of summons, and not the filing of the declaration; and therefore that evidence of payments made by the executrix between the times of suing out the writ and filing the declaration, was inadmissible.

It should seem (as there has already been occasion to point out), (f) that if, in the distribution of assets, a creditor misleads an executor, either by laches or express \* authority, so as thereby to induce him to pursue a course he would not otherwise have pursued, the creditor is precluded from complaining of an insufficiency of assets. (g) So where a party entitled to a legacy under a will has a claim against the testator, which he conceals from the executors till after he has received his legacy, he cannot afterwards, in an action against the executors, object that the amount of the legacy was not paid in a due course of administration. (h)

Judgment  
against an  
executor:

Whenever the action against an executor or administrator can only be supported against him in that charac-

note (8); *ante*, 1028, 1029. It is said in 2 Phill. Ev. 350, 6th ed., that the defendant may prove under *plene administravit*, subsisting judgment debts, and retain assets to the full amount; but this seems not to be correct; and the authority cited, *Bond v. Green*, 1 Brownl. 75, it should appear, applies merely to a retainer of a debt due to the defendant himself.

(c) *Dyer*, 32 a, in *margin*; Com. Dig. Admon. C. 2; *Nightingale v. Lee*, 1 Freem. 110.

(d) *Ante*, 1033, note (o).

(e) 5 B. & Ad. 1034.

(f) *Ante*, 1352 *et seq.*

(g) *Richards v. Browne*, 3 Bing. N. C. 499, by Tindal C. J.; *ante*, 1354.

(h) *Stroud v. Stroud*, 7 M. & Gr. 417.

[1974]

ter, and he pleads any plea which admits that he has acted as such, (except a release to himself) the judgment against him must be, that the plaintiff do recover the debt and costs to be levied *out of the assets of the testator*, if the defendant have so much, (*h*<sup>1</sup>) but if not, then *the costs* out of the defendant's *own goods*; otherwise, the judgment will be erroneous. (*i*) As where the defendant pleads *non est factum testatoris*, or a release *to the testator*, or payment by him, or *non assumpsit*; though these pleas admit assets. (*k*) So where the executor \*pleads *plene administravit*,

(*h*<sup>1</sup>) [See *Greenwood v. Spiller*, 2 Scammon, 502; *Burnap v. Dennis*, 3 Scammon, 478; *M'Dowell v. Wright*, 4 Scammon, 403; *Massingale v. Jones*, 3 Hayw. 36; *Haggood v. Houghton*, 10 Pick. 154; *Gray C. J. in National Bank of Troy v. Stanton*, 116 Mass. 438; *Justices v. Sloan*, 7 Geo. 31; *Scott v. Mitchell*, 1 Missou. 764; *Campfield v. Ely*, 13 N. J. (Law) 150; *Barrow v. Wade*, 7 Sm. & M. 49; *Quicksall v. Quicksall*, 2 Penning. (N. J.) 457; *Murray v. Davis*, 2 Penning. (N. J.) 843; *Flagg v. Winans*, 2 Ind. 123; *Voorhies v. Eubank*, 6 Iowa, 274.]

(*i*) 1 Saund. 335, note (10) to *Hancock v. Prowd*; *Gorton v. Gregory*, 3 B. & S. 90. [See *ante*, 1896, note (*o*); *Montgomery v. Reynolds*, 14 N. J. (Law) 283; *Phipps v. Addison*, 7 Blackf. 375; *Wilcox v. State*, 24 Texas, 544; *Armstrong v. Johnson*, Minor (Ala.), 169; *Pope v. Robinson*, 1 Stewart (Ala.), 415; *Laughlin v. McDonald*, 1 Missou. 684; *Hill v. Robeson*, 2 Sm. & M. 541; *Priest v. Martin*, 4 Blackf. 311; *Crane v. Hopkins*, 6 Ind. 44; *Lawton v. Buckingham*, 15 Iowa, 22; *Oliver v. Hearne*, 4 Ala. 271; *Rece v. May*, 2 A. K. Marsh. 23; *Luke v. Marshall*, 6 J. J. Marsh. 458; *Sindle v. Kiersted*, 2 Penning. (N. J.) 926; *Lightfoot v. Cole*, 1 Wisc. 27; *Stone v. Kaufman*, 25 Ark. 186; *Ranney v. Thomas*, 45 Missou. 111.] But if the judgment be entered *de bonis propriis*, instead of *bonis testatoris* *si, &c.* it is considered as a mere clerical mistake, which the court below will amend on motion, even after the record has been removed by error, and argument in the court of error. *Short v.*

*Coffin*, 5 Burr. 2730; [*Piper v. Goodwin* 23 Maine, 251; *Atkins v. Sawyer*, 1 Pick. 351; *Ware v. St. Louis Bagging & Rope Co.* 47 Ala. 667; *Estate of Schroeder*, 46 Cal. 304.] However, where a plaintiff who was entitled to judgment against a defendant executor *de bonis testatoris et si non, &c.* took judgment and issued execution for debt and costs *de bonis propriis*, the court set aside the judgment and execution on motion. *Ward v. Thomas*, 1 Cr. & M. 532; S. C. 2 Dowl. 87. And the court will not, after a lapse of six years, allow a judgment for the debt *de bonis testatoris*, and for the costs *de bonis testatoris et si non de bonis propriis*, to be altered to a judgment generally *de bonis testatoris et si non de bonis propriis*, even if the latter be clearly the judgment to which the plaintiff was entitled; the distinction being between an alteration to *discharge*, and one to *fix*, the personal liability of the executor. *Burroughs v. Stevens*, 5 Taunt. 556. [In some cases it is held that a judgment against an executor for a debt of the testator should direct the debt to be paid in due course of administration. *Racoullat v. Sansevain*, 32 Cal. 376; *Welch v. Wallace*, 8 Ill. 490; *Bull v. Harris*, 31 Ill. 487; *Thorn v. State*, 10 Texas, 295; *Fortson v. Caldwell*, 17 Texas, 627; *Peck v. Stevens*, 5 Gilman, 127; *Turney v. Gates*, 12 Ill. 141; *Estate of Schroeder*, 46 Cal. 304.]

(*k*) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 341-346, 14th ed.; *Rock v. Leighton*, 1 Salk. 310; *Ramsden v. Jackson*, 1 Atk. 292, 294; *Erving v. Peters*, 3 T. R. 685; 1 Saund. 335, note (10).

and it is found against him, the judgment is *de bonis testatoris, et si non, &c.* then the costs *de bonis propriis*. (l)

But where the defendant pleads *ne unques executor* or *administrator*, or a release to himself, and it is found against him, the judgment is, that the plaintiff do recover both *the debt and costs*, in the first place, *de bonis testatoris si, &c.* and *si non, &c. de bonis propriis*. (m) The reason alleged is, because the executor cannot but know these to be false pleas. (m<sup>1</sup>) But the same reason seems equally to apply to other pleas where the judgment is different. (n)

It may here be observed, that the difference, *in effect*, between these two kinds of judgments against an executor or administrator, is not so great as it may appear at first sight. For, although the judgment is only *de bonis testatoris*, yet the executor, upon a deficiency of assets, must ultimately pay the debt as well as costs recovered, out of his own pocket; because the judgment is in law a proof that he has assets to satisfy it; (o) and, therefore, to a *scire facias* on the judgment, or action of debt suggesting a *devastavit*, the executor cannot plead *plene administravit*, but only controvert the *devastavit*; of which fact the judgment, and the sheriff's return of *nulla bona testatoris*, are almost conclusive evidence, and judgment will be against the defendant *de bonis propriis*. (p)

With respect to the *amount* for which judgment should be entered against the executor upon a plea of *plene administravit*, it is now held that if the executor plead either a general or special *plene administravit*, he is liable only to the amount of the assets proved to be in his hands. (q)

for what  
amount  
judgment  
shall be  
upon a plea  
of *plene ad-  
ministra-  
vit*: . The \* case, however, was formerly taken to be, that if

(l) 1 Roll. Abr. 931, D. pl. 3; Wentw. Off. Ex. 344, 14th ed.; [Swearingen v. Pendleton, 4 Serg. & R. 389, 396; Frink v. Layton, 2 Bay, 166.]

(m) Bro. Exors. 34; 1 Roll. Abr. p. 930, C. pl. 2, 8, p. 933, pl. 15; Bull v. Wheeler, Cro. Jac. 648; Wentw. Off. Ex. 338, 340, 14th ed.; 1 Saund. 336 b, note (10); Hooper v. Summersett, Wightw. 20, *per curiam*; [Justices v. Sloan, 7 Geo. 31; Harrison v. Taylor, 1 Brevard, 233; Smith v. Goggans, Harper (S. Car.), 52; Kellogg v. Wilcox, 2 John. 377.]

[1976]

(m<sup>1</sup>) [See Evans v. Pierson, 1 Wend. 30; Moore v. Hunt, 1 Bailey, 370; Robert v. Ditmas, 7 Wend. 522.]

(n) 1 Saund. 336 b, note (10).

(o) *Ante*, 1953, 1954.

(p) 1 Saund. 337, note (1). See *infra*, 1983, 1984 *et seq.* [See Cogan v. Duncan, 23 Miss. 274; Young v. Kennedy, 2 McMullan, 80; Micheau v. Caldwell, 1 Spears (S. Car.) Ch. 22.]

(q) 1 Saund. 219 b, note to Wheatley v. Lane; Jackson v. Lyon, C. & M. 97.

any assets, however small, were proved to be unadministered, the plaintiff was entitled to recover his whole demand from the executor. Indeed, it appears that, anciently, if it was found by verdict that the executor had assets sufficient to satisfy but *part* of the debt, the usual practice of the K. B. was to enter up judgment for the *whole* debt, but to take out *execution* only for the sum found by the verdict; and if the executor was afterwards possessed of more assets, to sue out a *scire facias* on the judgment. (r) But in Easter term, 36 Eliz., the prothonotaries of the common pleas certified that their course was not to enter judgment of the *whole* debt, but only of so much as was found to be in the executor's hands. (s) And the same point was decided by Lord Mansfield, in *Harrison v. Beccles*, (t) where the plaintiff, having proved a debt of 80*l.*, took a verdict on the *non assumpsit* for the sum, and having proved 25*l.* assets unadministered, he took a verdict on the *plene administravit* for that sum, and judgment *quando*, &c. for the residue. (u) It may, perhaps, appear questionable whether there is any real difference between the two modes of practice. For, in the former case, the executor was only bound to pay the assets found by the jury. (x)

[See *Jameson v. Martin*, 3 J. J. Marsh. 330; *Siglar v. Haywood*, 8 Wheat. 675.]

(r) 1 Saund. 336, note.

(s) *Hargthorpe v. Millforth*, Cro. Eliz. 319.

(t) Cited 3 T. R. 688.

(u) *Hancock v. Podmore*, 1 B. & Ad. 265, per Bayley J. accord.; [*Botts v. Fitzpatrick*, 5 B. Mon. 397.]

(x) 1 Saund. 336, note. The following form is taken from Serjt. Williams's note in 1 Saund. 336, for entering up judgment on the two issues of *non assumpsit* by the testator, and of *plene administravit* by the defendant, to which the plaintiff replied that the defendant had assets since the commencement of the suit, where the jury find the first issue for the plaintiff, and, on the second issue, that the defendant has assets to satisfy only *part* of the debt. "As to the first issue between the said parties within joined, upon their oath do say, that the within named William Clarke (the testator) in his lifetime did undertake and promise in manner and form as the

said Francis hath above thereof complained against her the said defendant Mary (the executrix), and they assess the damages of the said Francis by reason of the not performing of the said promises and undertakings, over and above his costs and charges by him about his suit in this behalf expended, to 80*l.*, and for those costs and charges to 40*s.* And as to the last issue between the said parties within joined, the jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid say, that the said Mary, at the time of the commencement of the suit of the said Francis in this behalf, and since had goods and chattels which were of the said William at the time of his death in her hands to be administered to the value of 40*l.*, parcel of the said damages above assessed, wherewith she the said Mary might have satisfied the said Francis 40*l.*, parcel of the said damages; and as to 40*l.* residue of the said damages, that the said Mary, at the time of the commencement of the suit of the said Francis in this behalf, or ever since, had not any



\* When several executors plead *plene administravit severally* judgment upon *plene administravit*, when one only of several executors is found to have assets: by several attorneys, and the jury find that one of them only has assets, judgment shall be given against him only, and the rest shall go quit. (y) But where the executors *join* in the plea, it was formerly established that judgment should be given against them all, although the jury found assets \* in the hands of one only. (z) But it has been considered that the principle of the above mentioned case of *Harrison v. Beccles* will be held to moderate this rule. (a) And accordingly, in a modern case at N. P., (b) where in an action against several executors they all pleaded that they had fully administered, &c. and the plaintiff proved assets in the hands of some only of the defendants, Parke J. directed the jury to find a verdict for the plaintiff against the latter, and, as to the other executors, to find a verdict for the defendants. (c)

If there be a verdict for the defendant, he is entitled to costs as in ordinary cases. It has been held that the statutes 7 costs for executor defendant: Hen. 8, c. 4, s. 3, and 21 Hen. 8, c. 19, s. 3, by which

other goods and chattels which were of the said William at the time of his death in the hands of the said Mary to be administered, wherewith she could have satisfied the said Francis the said 40*l.*, residue of the said damages so assessed as aforesaid. Therefore it is considered that the said Francis do recover against the said Mary the said 40*l.* by the said jury in form aforesaid found, parcel of the said damages of 80*l.* above assessed, together with his costs and charges by the said jury in form aforesaid assessed, and also 35*l.* for his costs and charges of increase by the said court of our said lord the king here adjudged to the said Francis with his assent, which said damages, costs, and charges, in the whole amount to 77*l.*, to be levied of the goods and chattels which were of the said William at the time of his death in the hands of the said Mary to be administered, if she hath as much in her hands to be administered, and if not, then the said costs and charges, parcel of the damages last mentioned, amounting to 37*l.*, to be levied of the proper goods and chattels of the said Mary, and that, &c.

&c. and that the said Francis do recover the said 40*l.* residue of the said damages in form aforesaid assessed, to be levied of the goods and chattels which were of the said William at the time of his death, or which since the pleading of the said second plea [but see *Smith v. Tateham*, *post*, 1982] of the said Mary, have come or at any time hereafter shall come, to the hands of the said Mary to be administered. And the said Mary in mercy," &c.

(y) *Bellew v. Juckleden*, 1 Roll. Abr. 929, B. pl. 5.

(z) 1 Roll. Abr. 929, B. pl. 4.

(a) 1 Saund. 336, note.

(b) *Parsons v. Hancocke*, 1 Mood. & Malk. 330.

(c) See, also, the remarks of the same learned judge in *Cousins v. Paddon*, 2 Cr., M. & R. 558. [A joint administrator cannot complain that several judgments are rendered against him and his co-administrator for the assets found in their hands respectively. *Kavanaugh v. Thompson*, 16 Ala. 817. But see *Dickerson v. Robinson*, 6 N. J. (Law) 195.]

[1977] [1978]

costs are recoverable by the defendant in an action of replevin, extend to avowries made by an executor. (d)

It will appear, on referring to the description above given of the proper mode of entering judgment against executors and administrators, (e) that, when defendants, they have no privilege as to costs; but, on the contrary, are liable to pay them *de bonis propriis* if there are no assets. (f) There-fore, an executor or administrator ought not to plead *non assumpsit*, or other general issues, without a good reason; for if the plaintiff succeeds, the executor will be liable to pay the costs out of his own pocket, although the plea were not false to his knowledge. (g) Thus, if the executor or administrator pleads *non assumpsit* and *plene administravit*, if the plaintiff take judgment of assets *in futuro*, upon the \*latter plea, and goes to trial upon the plea of *non assumpsit*, he will be entitled to costs, if he obtains a verdict; and such costs to be levied *de bonis propriis* of the executor or administrator, if there are not assets of the testator or intestate sufficient to satisfy them. (h) The reason is, that if the defendant had pleaded a plea of *plene administravit* only, the plaintiff might have taken judgment of assets *quando*, without incurring the costs of a trial; but the defendant, by pleading that the testator never promised, compelled the plaintiff to incur those costs; because, in order to avail himself of the judgment of assets *quando acciderint*, he was obliged to go down to trial on the other issue. (i) And, therefore, in such cases, unless the executor or administrator has a good ground of defence upon *non assumpsit*, it is usual for him to move to withdraw his plea, which the court will permit him to do upon payment of costs. (k) So where an executor pleaded *non assumpsit* and *plene administravit*, on which the plaintiff took issue, and a bond and mortgage outstanding and *plene administravit præter*, on which latter plea the defendant took judgment of assets *quando acciderint*, and there was a verdict for the plaintiff on the plea of *non assumpsit*, and for the defendant on the issue of *plene administravit*; the court held that

(d) Tidd, 887, 956, 9th ed.

(e) *Ante*, 1974.

(f) See 9 B. & C. 658. [See *ante*, 1896, note (o); *Giles v. Pratt*, 1 Hill. Ch. 239.]

(g) *Dearne v. Grim*, 2 W. Bl. 1275; 1 Saund. 336 b. And a bankrupt executor so pleading after commission sued is

liable to execution for the costs, notwithstanding he has obtained his certificate. *Howard v. Jemmet*, 3 Burr. 1368; S. C. 1 W. Bl. 400.

(h) *Marshall v. Willder*, 9 B. & C. 655.

(i) 9 B. & C. 657.

(k) 2 W. Bl. 1275; Tidd, 980, 9th ed.

the plaintiff, being, at all events, entitled to judgment of assets *quando*, and having been compelled, by the defendant's pleading *non assumpsit*, to go down to trial, was entitled to retain the *postea* and to have the general costs of the trial, though the issue of *plene administravit* was found against him. (*l*)

But the rule is now established, as in ordinary cases, that the executor or administrator, defendant, will be entitled to the general costs, although he may have pleaded the general issue and failed on it, provided he has pleaded any one plea \* which goes to the whole cause of action and succeeded on it. Thus, if the defendant pleads *non assumpsit* and *plene administravit*, and the plaintiff, instead of taking judgment of assets *quando* on the latter, traverses both the pleas, and issues are joined thereon, and that on *plene administravit* is found for the defendant, he will be entitled to a general judgment, and the general costs of the action, although the general issue is found against him. (*m*) The law is the same where the pleas are the general issue, *ne unques executor*, and *plene administravit*, and the last issue only is found for the defendant. (*n*)

In an action against an executor or administrator, if the defendant pleads *plene administravit*, and it cannot be proved judgment of assets in *futuro*: that he has assets in hand, the plaintiff may confess the plea, and take judgment immediately of assets *quando acciderint*, or, as it is sometimes called, judgment of assets *in futuro*. (*o*) This is an interlocutory or final judgment, according to the nature of the action: and if it be only interlocutory, there must be writ of inquiry, or other proceeding, to complete it. (*p*) But if the plaintiff take issue on the general or special plea of *plene administravit*, and it be found against him, he cannot have judgment of assets *quando*, &c. (*q*)

(*l*) *Hindley v. Russell*, 12 East, 232; *Tidd*, 980, 9th ed. [See *Nicholson v. Showerman*, 6 Wend. 554; *Gordon v. Frederick*, 1 Munf. 14; *Craddock v. Turner*, 6 Leigh, 124; *Smith v. Goggans*, Harper, 52; *Kellog v. Wilcox*, 2 John. 377; *Fort v. Goody*, 7 Barb. 388.]

(*m*) *Cockson v. Drinkwater*, 3 Dougl. 239; *Hogg v. Graham*, 4 Taunt. 135; *Marshall v. Willder*, 9 B. & C. 657; *Iggulden v. Terson*, 2 Dowl. 277; [*Terry v. Vest*, 11 Ired. 65.]

(*n*) *Ragg v. Wells*, 8 Taunt. 129; *Edwards v. Bethel*, 1 B. & Ad. 254.

(*o*) *Mary Shipley's case*, 8 Co. 134 a; *Noell v. Nelson*, 2 Saund. 226; *Parker v. Dee*, 3 Swanst. 532, note to *Drewry v. Thacker*; [*Skinner v. Frierson*, 8 Ala. 915; *Miller v. Towles*, 4 J. J. Marsh. 255; *Wilt v. Bird*, 7 Blackf. 258.] See the form of such judgment, 2 Saund. 216, 217.

(*p*) *Tidd*, 683, 9th ed.

(*q*) 1 Roll. Abr. 929, B. pl. 2; S. C.

By taking judgment of assets *quando* the plaintiff admits that the defendant has fully administered to that time. (r) \* And accordingly, the terms of the judgment are that the plaintiff do recover his debt to be levied of the goods of the testator which shall *thereafter* (s) come to the hands of the executor. And in debt or *scire facias*, on this judgment proof of the executor's receiving assets is always at the trial confined to a period subsequent to the judgment. (t) And it is right that such be the rule at law; for if a creditor was permitted to litigate a second time that which has been once settled between the parties, either by verdict or admission, an executor would be harassed and involved in infinite expense and litigation. (u)

It was observed by Lord Kenyon, in *Mara v. Quin*, (x) that it had occurred to him on looking into the precedents, that the ordinary mode of entering up a judgment of assets *quando acciderint* was not correct; for as, on the issue of *plene administravit*, no evidence could be given of assets after the writ sued out, if the judgment were only to affect assets received after the judgment, there was an interval between the commencement of the action and the judgment, in which, if the executors received any assets, they could not be taken at all. His lordship therefore thought that the judgment in such a case ought to be entered up in such a manner as to reach all assets received by the executor after the time of suing out the writ. Upon which Mr. Justice Ashhurst observed, that as the plea of *plene administravit* was, that the executor hath not,

Bro. Exor. 18; 2 Saund. 217, note (1) to *Noell v. Nelson*; *Lucas v. Jenner*, 2 Dowl. 64, per Bayley B. But see *Hindley v. Russell*, 12 East, 232, *ante*, 1980. The same consequence does not seem to follow where *plene administravit* is ill pleaded. 2 Mac. & G. 414, 415, per Tindal C. J. [But it has been held that, on a plea of *plene administravit*, if the plaintiff takes issue on the plea, and it is found against him, he must pay costs, but may yet have judgment to be paid *quando acciderint*. *Burnes v. Burton*, 1 A. K. Marsh. 349; *Osterhout v. Hardenburgh*, 19 John. 266.]

(r) 2 Saund. 219, note (2); *Parker v. Dee*, 3 Swanst. 522, note to *Drewry v. Thacker*; [*McDowall v. Branham*, 2 Nott & McCord, 572. In *Georgia*, a judgment

*quando* binds all the estate of the defendant's testator or intestate, except such as was in the hands of the representative at the time it was rendered, or such as had been previously administered by him; and third persons cannot take advantage of the form of the judgment to screen property in their possession from liability. *Allen v. Matthews*, 7 Geo. 149.]

(s) The more proper form, perhaps, is, "after the pleading of the said plea of the said C. D." instead of "thereafter." But see, *contra*, *Smith v. Tateham*, *post*, 1995.

(t) *Taylor v. Holman*, Bull. N. P. 169; 2 Saund. 219 a, note (2).

(u) *Mara v. Quin*, 6 T. R. 1; 2 Saund. 219 a, note (2).

(x) 6 T. R. 10.

nor had at the time of suing out the writ," "*nor at any time since, any assets,*" &c. he saw no objection to the plaintiff's replying to the latter part of the plea, "*that the executor had assets since,*" &c. if the facts were so. (y)

\* But a different view of these points has lately been presented by the court of exchequer in *Smith v. Tateham*. (z) In that case an executor had pleaded *plene administravit*; and the plaintiff replied that after the commencement of the suit and *after plea pleaded*, certain goods of the testator had come into the executor's hands, wherewith he could have satisfied the plaintiff's claims. The replication was held bad on general demurrer, as unprecedented and unnecessary; for that the plaintiff ought to have taken the ordinary judgment of assets *quando*; which, according to the opinions expressed by the barons, embraces not only those assets which were actually received by the hands of the executor after the time when judgment was signed, but also those which came between the issuing of the writ and the judgment, and which *are* or ought to be in his hands, in the due course of administration after judgment. And the dicta of Lord Kenyon and Ashhurst J., above cited, were disapproved of by Parke B. and Rolfe B. (a)

(y) See the form, *ante*, 1976, note (x).  
[See *Southard v. Potts*, 2 Zabriskie, 278.]

(z) 2 Ex. 205.

(a) The decision in this case that the replication was bad appears to be unquestionably right. But some doubts may be felt whether the reasons above given for it are not in conflict with the earlier authorities. They are certainly irreconcilable with the doctrine that the "*nec unquam postea*" is a necessary part of the plea of *plene administravit*; and that doctrine is founded on no mean support. See *Gewen v. Roll*, Cro. Jac. 132; Com. Dig. tit. Pleader, 2 D. 9, (cited by Littledale J. in *Rees v. Morgan*, 5 B. & Ad. 1037); 2 Saund. 216, note (1), *ante*, 1955. Again in *Barker v. Dee*, reported from Lord Nottingham's MS. in 3 Swanst. 532, note (a), Lord Nottingham asked the counsel for the plaintiff, who had filed a bill in equity for a discovery of assets after a plea by the defendant at law of *plene administravit*, why he did not pray judgment at law upon the plea with a *cesset executio donec assets*

*acciderint*. Serjeant Maynard answered, that if he had prayed judgment he could have had no advantage but of such assets as should happen *after the plea*, for the prayer admits the plea true, and that there were no assets *at the time of the plea*, "which," said Lord Nottingham, "I held to be a good answer. But the counsel on the other side argued 'that assets before the plea are assets after the plea, and so within the words *cum acciderint*; as a bond paid before the day is a bond paid at the day.' To which I replied, 'true it is assets are always assets till aliened, but it lies not in averment by him who hath admitted the contrary on record by his prayer.'" [In *Orcutt v. Orms*, 3 Paige, 459, where an administrator, in a suit at law against him as such, pleaded *plene administravit*, which was admitted by the plaintiff, who took judgment, to be satisfied out of assets *quando acciderint*, the administrator was held to be protected from accounting for any assets which came to his hands *before the time of plea*; but he was held liable

\* When an executor or administrator pleads *plene administravit*, or judgments, &c. outstanding, and *plene administravit* costs on judgment of assets in futuro. *præter*, and the plaintiff, admitting the truth of the plea, takes judgment of assets *quando*, &c. the executor or administrator is not liable to costs *de bonis propriis*; (b) nor does he seem liable thereto, when he pleads *plene administravit præter*, and the plaintiff takes judgment of the assets admitted in part, and for the residue, of assets *quando*, &c. (c) It seems that it was formerly the practice not to allow the plaintiff his costs, even out of the future assets. (d) But it appears to be now settled, that though an executor or administrator, in such case, is not personally liable to pay costs, yet that judgment may be well entered for them, to be recovered *de bonis testatoris, quando acciderint*. (e);

After the plaintiff has obtained a judgment against an executor *de bonis testatoris*, there are two modes of enforcing it. 1st, by *fieri facias*, (f) or *scire fieri* inquiry; (f<sup>1</sup>) 2d, by an action of debt on the judgment, suggesting a *devastavit*. (f<sup>2</sup>)

Proceedings on judgment against executor *de bonis testatoris*:

to account for assets which came to his hands after that time, as well before judgment as afterwards.]

(b) 1 Saund. 336 b, note; Tidd, 980, 9th ed.; [Pope v. Delavan, 1 Wend. 68.]

(c) Tidd, 980, 9th ed.

(d) Butt v. Deschamps, Tidd, 980, note (d), 9th ed.

(e) De Tastet v. Andrade, 1 Chitt. Rep. 629, 630, *in notis*; Cox v. Peacock, 4 Dowl. 134. [In North Carolina, a defendant, who is an administrator, is entitled to costs in an action wherein the plea of "fully administered" has been found for him, and a judgment *quando* rendered. Lewis v. Johnston, 69 N. Car. 392.]

(f) He may also proceed to enforce his judgment by attachment of a debt due to the estate of the executor under the stat. 17 & 18 Vict. c. 125, s. 61 (C. L. Procedure Act), and a court of equity will not

restrain such proceedings, notwithstanding there has been a decree for the administration of the estate, if the judgment was obtained before the decree. Fowler v. Roberts, 2 Giff. 226. [In Pennsylvania, after judgment obtained against an executor or administrator, the plaintiff may issue a *scire facias* against such executor or administrator and the heirs or devisees, to recover the same out of the real estate, and such heirs or devisees may make the same defence which they could have made if originally joined in the suit. Murphy's Appeal, 8 Watts & S. 165.]

(f<sup>1</sup>) [See Braxton v. Wood, 4 Grattan, 25. By statute in Massachusetts, the real estate of a deceased testator or intestate may be taken on execution on a judgment recovered against his executor or administrator for the proper debt of the deceased, with costs of suit and the fees and

(f<sup>2</sup>) [In Peaslee v. Kelley, 38 N. H. 380, Bell J. said, "The course of proceeding in England by *scire fieri* inquiry, is unlike any course of proceeding known in our practice." It is provided by statute in

Massachusetts that, when an execution against an executor or administrator for a debt due from the estate of the deceased is returned unsatisfied, the creditor may upon a suggestion of waste sue out a *scire fu-*

First, as to proceeding by *feri facias* or *scire fieri* inquiry: If the sheriff returns, as he may do if he pleases, not only *by fieri facias*: *nulla bona* but also a *devastavit*, to a *feri facias de bonis testatoris* sued out on a judgment obtained against an executor, the plaintiff, according to the ancient practice, sued out execution immediately against the defendant by *capias ad satisf.*, or *feri facias de bonis propriis*; (g) and so \* he may, it should appear at this day. (h) And it seems that the sheriff runs no great risk by returning a *devastavit*; for the judgment, and no assets to be found, will be sufficient evidence of a *devastavit*, in an action against him for a false return. (i)

But if the sheriff returns *nulla bona* generally, without also returning *devastavit*, the ancient course was to issue a special writ for the sheriff to inquire by a jury whether the defendant had wasted any of the goods of the deceased. (i) And if a *devastavit* were found, and returned by the sheriff, a *scire facias* issued for the defendant to show cause why the plaintiff should not have execution *de bonis propriis*, to which *scire facias* the defendant might appear and plead. But now, for the sake of expedition, the inquiry and *scire facias* are made out in one writ, which is called a *scire fieri* inquiry; reciting the judgment, *feri facias*, and return of *nulla bona*, and after suggesting a *devastavit*,

charges of levying the execution, in like manner as it might have been if the judgment had been rendered and the execution issued and served against the testator or intestate in his lifetime. Genl. Sts. c. 103, §§ 53, 54, 55. The law is similar in some other states. See *Graff v. Smith*, 1 Dall. 481; *Morris v. Smith*, 1 Yeates, 238; *Rowland v. Harbaugh*, 5 Watts, 367; *M'Pherson v. Cunliff*, 11 Serg. & R. 432; *Steel v. Steel*, 4 Allen, 417; *Bells v. Robinson*, 1 Stewart, 193; *Wyman v. Fox*, 55 Maine, 523. But in Illinois a creditor cannot enforce collection of a debt against the deceased by levying an execution on lands left by him. *Stillman v. Young*, 16 Ill.

318. So in Indiana, *O'Brien v. Moody*, 4 McLean, 77; *ante*, 650, note (d<sup>1</sup>).]

(g) 1 Saund. 219, note (8) to *Wheatley v. Lane*; [*People v. Judges of Erie*, 4 Cowen, 445. But see *Hussey v. White*, 10 Serg. & R. 346; *Moore v. Kerr*, 10 Serg. & R. 318.]

(h) Tidd, 1025, 1113, 9th ed. The *feri* inquiry is only for the security of the sheriff. *Rock v. Leighton*, 1 Salk. 310; S. C. 1 Ld. Raym. 90; Com. Rep. 87.

(i) *Rock v. Leighton*, cited 3 T. R. 692; S. C. 1 Salk. 310; [*Bell J. in Peaslee v. Kelly*, 38 N. H. 380.]

(i<sup>1</sup>) [See *Bank of Alabama v. Hooks*, 2 Porter (Ala.), 271.]

*cias* against the executor or administrator. If the defendant does not appear and show sufficient cause to the contrary, he shall be deemed guilty of waste, and shall be personally liable for the amount thereof, when it can be ascertained, otherwise for

the amount due on the original judgment, with interest from the time when it was rendered; and judgment and execution shall be awarded as for his own debt. Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 128, § 10.]

commanding the sheriff to cause the debt or damages and costs to be made of the goods of the testator or intestate, if, &c.; and if not, then, if it shall appear by inquisition that the defendant hath wasted the goods of the deceased, to give notice to the defendant to appear in court at the return of the writ to show cause why the plaintiff ought not to have execution *de bonis propriis*. And there must be the same notice of executing such writ, as of a common writ of inquiry. (j)

The most usual mode of proceeding has been by action of debt on the judgment suggesting a *devastavit*; because in the proceeding by *scire fieri* inquiry, the plaintiff was not, until the passing of the act for the further amendment of the law, entitled to costs, unless the executor appeared and \*pleaded to the *scire facias*. For the statute 8 & 9 W. 3, c. 11, s. 8, which gives costs to plaintiffs in suits upon *scire facias*, limits them to those cases only where the plaintiff obtains judgment, or award of execution, upon a plea pleaded, or demurrer joined thereon. (k) But now by statute 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 34, it is enacted, that in all writs of *scire facias*, the plaintiff obtaining judgment on an award of execution shall recover his costs of suit upon a judgment by default as well as upon a judgment after plea pleaded, or demurrer joined.

The executor cannot plead *plene administravit* to the *scire fieri* inquiry; because the judgment against him is conclusive that he had assets to satisfy it. (l) Neither can he, upon the taking of the inquisition, give in evidence the want of assets. (m) And it should therefore seem, that the jury are bound, upon the judgment being put in evidence, together with the *fi. fa.* and the re-

(j) Tidd, 1113, 1114, 9th ed. See the account of the establishment of this practice. 1 Saund. 219 a, note to *Wheatley v. Lane*.

(k) 1 Saund. 219 a. And it must be observed, that by sect. 5 of this statute it is provided that nothing therein contained shall extend to executors and administrators. Consequently, it should seem, that even after plea pleaded or demurrer joined, costs in *scire facias* were not recoverable against them under the stat. of W. 3.

(l) See *ante*, 1953, 1954. [An action of debt lies on a judgment against an admin-

istrator, but such judgment is not evidence in Mississippi that he had assets, or had committed a *devastavit*. These facts must be proved by other evidence. *Lee v. Gardner*, 26 Miss. 521. As to the extent of relief in equity for an executor or administrator against judgments at law, when the assets have been taken from him, or lost, &c. without his fault, see *Royall v. Johnson*, 1 Rand. 421; *Miller v. Rice*, 1 Rand. 438; *Pickett v. Stewart*, 1 Rand. 478; *Pendleton v. Stuart*, 6 Munf. 377.]

(m) 1 Saund. 219 d.



turn, to find a *devastavit*, as suggested in the writ, unless the executor can show that there were goods of the testator which might have been taken in execution, and that he showed them to the sheriff. (n) Accordingly, in a case where the under-sheriff, on taking the inquest, directed the jury that the plaintiff was bound to give evidence of the executor's having property of the testator in his hands, and subsequently returned *nulla bona testatoris*, the court quashed the return and awarded a new *scire fieri* inquiry. (o) However, the return of a *devastavit* is not conclusive, whether found by the inquisition or returned by the sheriff; and therefore the executor may traverse it, by denying the *devastavit*, and taking issue on \*it. (p) And upon the trial of such an issue he may show that he had not wasted the goods of the testator, but was ready to give them to the sheriff, so that it was the sheriff's fault that he did not make the debt out of them. (q)

In *Blackmor v. Mercer*, (r) in an inquisition returned by the sheriff on a *scire fieri* inquiry, it was found that the executors *had sold, eloiigned, converted, and disposed to their own use* divers goods of the testator. The defendants came in and traversed that they sold, eloiigned, &c. and the plaintiff maintained the inquisition that they had sold, eloiigned, &c. as it was found by the inquisition, and tendered an issue on it, to which the defendants demurred. And it was objected that here neither the inquisition, nor the plaintiff's replication were sufficient to charge the defendants *de bonis propriis*; for no *devastavit* was found by the inquisition, or alleged by the plaintiff; and the defendants might have well sold, eloiigned, and disposed of the testator's goods, because they had paid the testator's debt to the value of the goods with their own money, and therefore, although it was a sale, eloiignment, or conversion, yet it was no *devastavit*; wherefore there ought to have been a *devastavit* found or alleged, otherwise the defendants were not chargeable of their own goods. *Sed non allocatur*; for, by Hale, chief justice, perhaps the defendants had not actually wasted the goods of the testator, but had them in their hands in *specie*, and kept them so secretly that the sheriff

(n) *Ib.*; *Leonard v. Simpson*, 2 Bing. ver, *Ib.* 306; *Blackmor v. Mercer*, 2 Saund. N. C. 179, 180. 402.

(o) *Palmer v. Waller*, 1 M. & W. 689; (q) See 1 Saund. 219 c; Bing. N. C. S. C. 5 Dowl. 315. 180, 181.

(p) 1 Saund. 219 c; *Merchant v. Dri-* (r) 2 Saund. 402.

could not find them to levy the plaintiff's debt upon them; therefore it is reasonable that the defendants should be charged *de bonis propriis*, although there is no *devastavit* in the case. And for this reason it was adjudged for the plaintiff. (s)

The action of debt on the judgment suggesting a *devastavit* was substituted in lieu of the proceeding by *scire fieri* \*inquiry. (t) The foundation of this action is the judgment obtained against the executor; (t<sup>1</sup>) which, as there has been already occasion to show, (u) is conclusive upon him to show that he has assets to satisfy such judgment. (u<sup>1</sup>) If, therefore, upon a *feri facias de bonis testatoris*, on a judgment obtained against an executor, either no goods can be found which were the testator's, or not sufficient to satisfy the demand (or, which is the same thing, if the executor will not expose them to the execution), that is evidence of a *devastavit*; and, therefore, it is very reasonable that the executor should become personally liable and chargeable *de bonis propriis*. (x) And the mode of proceeding is immaterial, because the executor is entitled to the same defence in debt upon the judgment suggesting a *devastavit*, as in the proceeding by a *scire fieri* inquiry. (y)

This action may be brought upon the judgment against the executor, upon a bare suggestion of a *devastavit*, without any writ of *fi. fa.* first taken out upon the judgment. (z) But the usual course is, first to sue out a *feri facias* upon the judgment, and, upon the sheriff's return of *nulla bona*, to bring the action, and state the judgment, the writ, and return, in the declaration; and, on the trial, the record of the judgment, the *feri facias*, and the return, will be sufficient evidence to prove the case. (a)

(s) See, also, *S. P. Merchant v. Driver*, 1 Saund. 307.

(t) *Berwick v. Andrews*, 2 Ld. Raym. 974; 1 Saund. 219 a, note; [Bell J. in *Peaslee v. Kelley*, 38 N. H. 380, cited ante, 1983, note (f<sup>1</sup>).]

(t<sup>1</sup>) [See *Vanhorn v. Teasdale*, 4 Halst. 379.]

(u) *Ante*, 1953, 1954.

(u<sup>1</sup>) [Goodwin v. Wilson, 1 Blackf. 344; Bell J. in *Peaslee v. Kelley*, 38 N. H. 380.]

(z) 1 Saund. 219 b, note (8) to *Wheatley v. Lane*; *Blackmor v. Mercer*, 2 Saund. 403; *Erving v. Peters*, 3 T. R.

686; *Farr v. Newman*, 4 T. R. 637; [*Newcomb v. Goss*, 1 Met. 333; *Mead v. Kilday*, 2 Watts, 110.]

(y) 1 Saund. 219 b, note.

(z) *Wheatley v. Lane*, 1 Sid. 397; 1 Saund. 219 c, note.

(a) *Challoner v. Challoner*, cited in *Skelton v. Hawling*, 1 Wils. 259; *Erving v. Peters*, 3 T. R. 685; 1 Saund. 219 c. S. P. where an irregular *testatum fi. fa.* had been issued and returned *nulla bona*, *Leonard v. Simpson*, 2 Bing. N. C. 176; S. C. 2 Scott, 335. [In *Peaslee v. Kelley*, 38 N. H. 380, 381, Bell J. having quoted the remarks in the text, says: "This ci-

The action, is, in form, an action of debt in the *debet* and *detinet*, and the judgment is *de bonis propriis*. (b) The executor \* or administrator may plead that he did not waste, &c. in manner and form, &c. and under this plea he may give in evidence that there were goods of the testator which might have been taken in execution, and that he showed them to the sheriff. (c) But the executor or administrator cannot plead *plene administravit*, or any other plea which puts his defence upon want of assets. For such plea would be contrary to what is admitted by the judgment. And if the truth were, that he had no assets, he should have set it up as a defence to the original action, and having neglected to do so, he shall not be permitted to say so afterwards. (d) Again, if he has pleaded *plene administravit* to the original action, and the judgment was had upon a verdict finding that *he had* assets, he is, of course, equally concluded from saying that he had no assets. (e) And, for the same reason, he cannot *give in evidence* the want of assets on the trial of the *devastavit*. (f) Accordingly, in a modern case, (g) in assumpsit against an executrix and two executors for a debt due from the testator, the executors severally pleaded *plene administravit* and the executrix pleaded *plene administravit* except as to 388*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* and also, except as to certain goods, of the value of 481*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; whereupon the plaintiff

tation seems to be conclusive as to what is material in an action of *scire facias*, and the necessary evidence to be offered to charge an executor *de bonis propriis*; the judgment, the execution, and the return of *nulla bona*. If waste is alleged, it is not necessary to prove it, nor to offer any other evidence tending to that result." See *Cope v. McFarland*, 2 Head (Tenn.), 543.]

(b) *Warren v. Consett*, 2 Ld. Raym. 1502. But a declaration in the *detinet* is at any rate cured by verdict; and it seems that, independent of the verdict, the plaintiff, on such a declaration, may take judgment *de bonis testatoris*. *Hope v. Bague*, 3 East, 2.

(c) 1 Saund. 219 c, note; *ante*, 1986. The same defence might formerly have been set up under a plea of *nil debet*. *Coppin v. Carter*, 1 T. R. 462. But now by Reg. Gen. H. T. 1853, r. 11, the plea of

*nil debet* shall not be allowed in any action.

(d) 1 Saund. 219 c, note.

(e) 1 T. R. 693.

(f) 1 Salk. 310. Nor upon a writ of inquiry after judgment by default in the original action. *Treil v. Edwards*, 6 Mod. 308; *Wharton v. Richardson*, 2 Stra. 1075; S. C. cited 1 Wils. 258; 1 Saund. 219 c, note. The rule is the same where the executor has pleaded, in the action of debt suggesting a *devastavit* that he had fully administered, without this, that he eloiigned or wasted, whereupon issue had been joined; for the averment in such a plea that the defendant had fully administered is immaterial, and the issue is on the *devastavit* only. *Dawson v. Gregory*, 7 Q. B. 756.

(g) *Cooper v. Taylor*, 6 M. & Gr. 989; S. C. 7 Scott N. R. 951.

\*signed judgment for 1,280*l.* 13*s.* 0*d.* to be levied, as to 865*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*, out of the assets confessed, and as to the residue, of assets *in futuro*. Under a *fi. fa.* thereon the goods produced 400*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* and the executrix gave a check on the bankers with whom the 383*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* had been deposited, which was dishonored on the ground that her co-executors had not signed it. Afterwards the plaintiff brought an action of debt suggesting a *devastavit* against the executrix, to which she pleaded that she did not waste, &c. And it was held that she was bound by her admission that the money was in her hands, and that, although there had been no return of *nulla bona testatoris* to the writ of *fi. fa.* there was sufficient evidence of a *devastavit* to the amount of 383*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*

If a man obtains judgment against an executor, and dies, his executor may, without first suing out a *scire facias*, or writ of revivor, bring an action of debt, upon the judgment against the executor, suggesting a *devastavit*; for the action is brought against the same person against whom the judgment was had, and by that judgment assets were admitted. (*h*) So, on the other hand, if a judgment be had against an executor, who afterwards dies, an action may, since the stat. Car. 2, c. 7, (*i*) be brought against his executor or administrator, upon the judgment, suggesting a *devastavit* by the first executor, and the judgment is as conclusive upon the representative of the executor as it is upon the executor himself. Therefore, if an action of debt, suggesting a *devastavit* by the first executor in his lifetime, be brought against *his* executor or administrator, he cannot plead that the first executor fully administered the goods of the first testator, or any other plea purporting that he (that is, the first executor) had no assets to satisfy the judgment, any more than the executor himself could have done. (*k*) For whatever act of the executor would have made him personally \*liable and chargeable with the payment of the demand *de bonis propriis*, will now, by virtue of the statute, make his *personal estate* liable in the hands of his executor or administrator. (*l*) But the executor or administrator of the executor may plead that he, the defendant, has fully administered all the estate of his own testator or intestate. (*m*) Moreover the action, when

(*h*) *Berwick v. Andrews*, 2 Ld. Raym. 971; S. C. 6 Mod. 125; 1 Salk. 314; *ante*, 791.

(*i*) See *ante*, 1629.

(*k*) *Skelton v. Hawling*, 1 Wils. 258.

(*l*) 1 Saund. 219 *d*, note.

(*m*) 1 Saund. 219 *e*, note. See *infra*, 1998, 1999.

brought against the executor or administrator of the executor, against whom the judgment was obtained, must be in the *detinet* only, and the judgment is *de bonis testatoris* or *intestati*. (*n*)

But no action of debt suggesting a *devastavit* by the executor lies against him upon a judgment obtained *against his* *testator*; because that is no admission of assets by the executor; and, therefore, in such cases, it is necessary to revive the judgment against the executor, to make him a party to it. (*o*)

If the testator died after execution was sued out, the writ may, it should seem, be still executed on his goods in the hands of his executors, without taking any further proceeding. (*p*)

But, generally speaking, if a defendant dies after final judgment against him, and before execution, the plaintiff cannot have execution without reviving the judgment against the personal representative of the defendant. (*q*) If, indeed, \* there are two or more defendants, and one of them dies after judgment, but before execution, the plaintiff is not put to revive the judgment against the personal representative of the deceased, but execution may be had without it against the survivors, within a year. (*r*) But the execution in such case should be taken out in the joint names of all the defendants, otherwise it will not be warranted by the judgment. (*s*)

Before the common law procedure act, 1852, the judgment was revived by a writ of *scire facias*, which stated that the testator died, having made the defendant his executor, or, in the case of

(*n*) 1 Saund. 219 *f*, note.

(*o*) Crosby v. Gaering, cited in Berwick v. Andrews, 2 Ld. Raym. 972.

(*p*) 1 Chitty's Archb. 569, edition by Prentice. At common law the execution creditor might have issued, the *fi. fa.* after the death, but tested in the lifetime, of the testator. 1 Saund. 219 *f*. And this right continued notwithstanding the stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 67, s. 2; Brocher v. Pond, 2 Dowl. 472; Harmer v. Johnson, 14 M. & W. 342, by Parke B. But as Reg. Gen. r. 72, of H. T. 1853, directs that every writ of execution shall bear date on the day on which the same shall be issued, this is no longer allowable.

(*q*) 2 Saund. 6, note (1) to Jeffreson v.

Morton; [Handley v. Fitzhugh, 3 A. K. Marsh. 561; Gwin v. Latimer, 4 Yerger, 22.] If there are several executors, a rule *nisi* to revive a judgment against the testator must be served on all who have proved the will. Panter v. Seaman, 5 Nev. & M. 679. If the original executor is dead, the proceedings may be against his executor; but if the representative of the deceased executor is an administrator, or if the original representative of him against whom judgment is recovered was an administrator, then the proceedings must be against the administrator *de bonis non*. See *ante*, 471-473.

(*r*) Tidd, 1120, 9th ed.

(*s*) Tidd, 1120, 9th ed.

an administrator, the death of the intestate, and the grant of administration; and it called on the defendant to show why the plaintiff should not have execution of the debt or damages, to be levied of the goods and chattels which were of the testator or intestate at the time of his death, in the defendant's hands to be administered, &c. (t)

But now, under that statute the plaintiff may either sue out a writ of revivor in the form given by the act, or apply to the court or a judge for leave to enter a suggestion on the roll, that he is entitled to have execution thereon. And the act, in the 129th and two following sections, prescribes the mode of proceeding, and course to be pursued in respect of each of these substitutes for a *scire facias*. It is deemed more advisable to refer the reader to them, and to the books of practice, for details, than further to enlarge this work by inserting them in this place. (u)

\* By sect. 131, "The venue in a declaration upon the writ of revivor may be laid in any county, and the pleadings and proceedings thereupon, and the rights of the parties respectively to costs, shall be the same as in an ordinary action."

With respect to the pleas which an executor or administrator may plead in his defence, it was said that if he pleaded *plene administravit* it was bad on a special, though good on a general, demurrer; but he ought to plead that he had nothing in his hands at the time of the death of his testator or intestate, or that no goods came to his hands except so much, if any did, and show how he administered them. (v) But this seems questionable, and, indeed, Lord Holt said in the case of *Newton v. Richards*, (x) that precedents prevailed with him more than the reason of the thing. And the plea was pleaded in *Hickey v. Hayter*, (y) without any objection. (z) Where the judgment on which the *scire facias* was brought was not docketed pursuant to the stat. 4 & 5 W. & M. c. 20, (a) it was held that the executor or adminis-

(t) Tidd, 1119, 9th ed. In a *scire facias* Petchet v. Woolston, Aleyn, 47, 48; Newton v. Richards, 1 Salk. 296; S. C. Comberb. 298; Skinn. 565; 4 Mod. 296; 1 Ld. Raym. 3, 4; 2 Saund. 72 *dd*, note 1395; Tidd, *ubi supra*. (4); [Kearney v. Sascor, 37 Md. 277.]

(u) See Stratford v. Baker, L. R. 4 Eq.

Ca. 256.

(v) Harecourt v. Wrenham, Moore, 858; Ad. 655; ante, 999.

Ordway v. Godfrey, Cro. Eliz. 575; (a) See ante, 999.

trator might give in evidence, under a plea of *plene administravit*, the payment of other debts before action brought, which exhausted all the assets. (b) And that it was not necessary for the defendant to allege in his plea that there was no docket. (c)

\* A plea by the executor that a writ of error is pending on the judgment is bad; for the object of the proceedings is to make the executor party to the judgment; and the court, in awarding the execution as prayed, does not say that it shall immediately be enforced. (d)

After the plaintiff has obtained judgment of execution against the executor, he may bring an action of debt in the *debet* and *detinet* on the latter judgment against the executor, suggesting a *devastavit*. And in such action the judgment is conclusive against the defendant that he has assets. Therefore he cannot plead *plene administravit*; and the judgment shall be *de bonis propriis*. (e) However, if the plaintiff pleases, he may bring the action in the *detinet*, and take judgment *de bonis testatoris*. (f)

If a person taken on a *ca. sa.* died in execution, it was formerly holden that the plaintiff had no further remedy. But now, by stat. 21 Jac. 1, c. 24, he may sue out new execution against the lands and tenements, goods and chattels, of the deceased, in the same manner as if such person had never been taken in execution. It has been held that if a defendant dies in execution, a *fi. fa.* tested and returnable when he was alive and in execution, will support a *testatum fi. fa.* issued under this statute into a foreign county. (g)

If a judgment of assets *quando acciderint* has been entered against an executor and administrator, the plaintiff cannot have execution until some assets come into the hands of the defendant, when the plaintiff may bring an action of debt upon the judgment, or proceed by the writ of revivor, substituted by the C. L. P. Act, 1852, in lieu of

Proceed-  
ings on  
judgment  
of assets  
in futuro.

(b) *Hickey v. Hayter*, 6 T. R. 384. But see stat. 2 Vict. c. 11, and *ante*, 1001.

(c) *Hall v. Tapper*, 3 B. & Ad. 655. In a case where judgment was set aside on payment of costs, which were tendered after the death of the defendant, and the plaintiff proceeded to set aside the rule, before any administrator was appointed, and commenced a *sci. fa.* on the judg-

ment, the court, on terms, permitted the administrator to come in and defend, and set aside all the proceedings subsequent to the declaration. *Cash v. Cock*, 2 Dowl. 3.

(d) *Snook v. Mattock*, 5 Ad. & El. 239.

(e) *Hope v. Bague*, 3 East, 2.

(f) *Ib.*

(g) *Farncombe v. Kent*, 2 Dowl. 46.

a *scire facias*. (*h*) Indeed, where the executor or administrator pleads several \* judgments outstanding, and the plaintiff takes judgment of assets *in futuro*, the future assets shall be in the first place applied to those judgments. (*i*) Hence there is a difference as to the future assets, between a plea of *plene administravit* generally, and a special plea of *plene administravit præter* judgments. (*k*)

If the judgment is in the ordinary form, it has been held necessary to state, in the writ of *scire facias*, that the assets came to the executor's hands *after* the judgment; for that the *scire facias* must pursue the terms of the judgment, which, in this case, are, that the plaintiff do recover his debt to be levied of the goods of the testator which shall *thereafter* come to the hands of the executor. Therefore, where a *scire facias*, on such a judgment as this, of assets *quando acciderint*, stated that divers goods, &c. of the testator, sufficient to pay, &c. had come to, and were in the hands of the defendant to be administered, &c. without stating that those goods had come to the defendant's hands *since the judgment*, and prayed execution against the defendant to be levied of those goods, according to the form and effect of his said recovery, &c. the defendant pleaded, that *after the plaintiff's judgment*, no goods, &c. of the testator had come to the defendant's hands to be administered, &c.; to which the plaintiff replied, that divers goods, &c. had come to the defendant's hands, without adding, *since the judgment*; and on demurrer it was adjudged that the *scire facias* was wrong, for want of the words "*after the judgment*." For when an executor pleads *plene administravit*, the plaintiff may either deny or admit that allegation; if he admits it, he takes judgment, and prays that his debt may be levied of such assets as may *afterwards* come to the hands of the executor to be administered; the praying of judgment is an admission that there are no assets in the executor's hands at that time. (*l*)

(*h*) *Ante*, 1990, 1991. By the C. L. P. Act, 1854, s. 91, "Proceedings against executors upon a judgment of assets *in futuro* may be had and taken in the manner provided by the C. L. P. Act, 1852, as to writs of revivor." See the form of the *scire facias*, *Noell v. Nelson*, 2 Saund. 219.

(*i*) *Parker v. Atfield*, 1 Salk. 312. See, also, *Poulett v. Wightman*, 1 Bligh N. S. 138. [In North Carolina, the creditor who

first proceeds upon his judgment *quando*, and fixes the administrator with assets, must first be paid, without any regard to priority of judgments. *McLean v. Leach*, 68 N. Car. 95; *Dancy v. Pope*, 68 N. Car. 147.]

(*k*) 1 Saund. 336 b, note.

(*l*) *Taylor v. Holman*, Bull. N. P. 169; 2 Saund. 219 a, note. But see *Smith v. Tateham*, 2 Ex. 205; *ante*, 1981.



\* Where, upon a suggestion of assets, a *scire facias* was taken out, and assets were found for part, judgment was given to recover so much immediately, and the residue of assets *in futuro*. (m)

At common law, the death of a sole plaintiff or defendant, at any time before final judgment, would have abated the proceedings against executor, when defendant dies between verdict and judgment: suit. (n) But now, by the stat. 17 Car. 2, c. 8, s. 1, as well as by the common law procedure act, 1852, s. 139, the death of either party between verdict and judgment shall not be alleged as error, so as such judgment shall be entered within two terms after such verdict. The construction which these statutes have received, and the proper mode of taking the benefit of them, have been already considered in a previous part of this treatise. (o)

If either the plaintiff or defendant happens to die after interlocutory and before final judgment, it is provided by the common law procedure act, 1852, s. 140, that the action shall not abate, if it might have been originally maintained by or against the executors or administrators of the party dying; but the plaintiff, or if he be dead after such interlocutory judgment, his executors or administrators, shall have a writ of revivor against the defendant if living after such interlocutory judgment, or if he died after, against his executors or administrators, &c. This enactment, also, and its construction and operation, have been discussed in an earlier stage of this work. (p)

In a case (q) where the plaintiff brought an action against two defendants, and proceeded to outlawry against one, and \* went on with the action against the other, who died after interlocutory and before final judgment, it was held that he could not have a *scire facias* against his administrator; for, notwithstanding the outlawry, the action remained joint, and therefore survived against the other defendant. (r)

Where the death of the defendant happens after interlocutory

(m) *Perryman v. Westwood*, cited in 1 Vent. 95, and 1 Sid. 448.

(n) *Ante*, 891. Where judgment was signed at the opening of the office at eleven o'clock, and the defendant died at half past nine A. M., the judgment was held regular, because judicial proceedings are to be considered as having taken

place at the earliest period of the day on which they are done. *Wright v. Mills*, 4 H. & N. 488.

(o) *Ante*, 892.

(p) *Ante*, 894, 895.

(q) *Fort v. Oliver*, 1 M. & Sel. 242.

(r) *See ante*, 902.

judgment, and before the execution of the writ of inquiry, the form of the writ of revivor ought to be for the executors or administrators to show cause why the damages should not be *assessed* and recovered against them. (s) And where the defendant dies after the execution of the writ of inquiry, but before the return of it, the writ should be to show cause why the damages assessed by the jury should not be *adjudged* to the plaintiff. (t)

The final judgment upon the writ of inquiry, after interlocutory judgment revived under the 140th section of the common law procedure act, must be against the *executor or administrator*, and not against the *testator or intestate himself*, as it is upon the 139th section and upon the stat. of Car. 2; and therefore it cannot be pleaded as a judgment against the testator or intestate. (u)

It must be also mentioned in this place, that where the defendant dies, after interlocutory and before final judgment, the plaintiff must sue out two writs of revivor to entitle himself to take out execution; one before final judgment to make the executors or administrators parties to the record, the other after final judgment to give them the opportunity of pleading the want of assets, or any other matter that an executor may plead in his defence to proceedings of revivor brought upon a final judgment obtained against his testator; for it would be unreasonable that the executors or administrators should be in a worse situation where their testator or intestate died before final \* judgment, than they would have been in if he had died after. (x)

So in a modern case in the house of lords, (y) before the common law procedure act, the defendant died intestate after interlocutory judgment and a writ of inquest of damages executed; but before it was returned, the plaintiff declared in *scire facias* against the administrator, who pleaded *plene administravit*, and set forth in his pleas divers specialties due and owing from the intestate, and charging the estate. The plaintiff having replied, admitted the truth of the pleas, and praying judgment and execution of the goods of the intestate *quando acciderint*, entered up final judgment "to have execution against the defendant, as administrator,

(s) *Smith v. Harmon*, 1 Salk. 315; 2 Saund. 72 q, note.

(t) *Goldsworthy v. Southcott*, 1 Wils. 243; 2 Saund. 72 r, note.

(u) *Weston v. James*, 1 Salk. 42; 2 Saund. 72 r, note; *ante*, 898.

(x) *Tomkins v. Gratton*, Say. Rep. 266; 2 Saund. 72 r, note.

(y) *Poulett v. Wightman*, 1 Bligh N. S. 138.

according to the force, form, and effect of the said recovery ;" no recovery having been before stated in any part of the proceedings on the record, and no final judgment having been given in the original action, and no provision being made by the judgment for the payment of the specialty debts. And it was held that the judgment was erroneous, and it was reversed with costs.

To the writ of revivor upon the interlocutory judgment the defendant's executor cannot plead a judgment obtained against him on a bond due to the testator, and no assets *ultra*, or any plea of a similar nature ; for the statute did not intend that the executor should be in a better situation, as to the assessing of damages upon the inquiry, than his testator, who could have pleaded nothing but a release, or other matter in bar arising *puis darrein continuance*. (z) But \* to the writ of revivor after final judgment, the executor or administrator may plead *plene administravit*. (a)

It may here be mentioned, that by the 138th section of the Proceeding in case of death of sole or surviving defendant before verdict or judgment by default. common law procedure act, 1852, in case of the death of a sole defendant, or surviving defendant, before verdict or judgment by default, where the action survives, the plaintiff may make a suggestion of the death of the defendant, and proceed, in the course prescribed by the act, to substitute his executor or administrator as a defendant. (a<sup>1</sup>) The object of the act appears to be to place the personal representative, after these steps have been taken, in the same position as to costs as well as other matters, as if he had been the original defendant on the record. Therefore the court will not allow the plaintiff to discontinue without the payment of all the costs of the cause to the executor or administrator who has been so substituted as defendant. (b)

In case of the death of parties to writs of error. The common law procedure act, 1852, has also, by the 161st and five following sections, made provisions for the death of parties to writs of error, correspond-

(z) *Smith v. Harmon*, 1 Salk. 315 ; S. *facias* was sued out against his executor. C. 6 Mod. 142. There seems to be a mistake in the report in stating that the intestate sued the executor, and obtained interlocutory judgment against him. From

the reasons on which the decision appears to be founded, the fact seems to have been, that the intestate obtained interlocutory judgment against the testator, and a *scire*

2 Sauud. 72 *ee*. (a) See *ante*, 1996.

(a<sup>1</sup>) [See *ante*, 1883, note (q<sup>1</sup>).]

(b) *Benge v. Swaine*, 15 C. B. 784. As to the mode by which the executor or administrator may compel the continuance or abandonment of the suit, see common law procedure act, 1854, s. 92 ; *ante*, 892, note (c).

ing in substance with those relating to the death of parties in the earlier stage of the proceedings. (c)

It may also be mentioned, that since, under that statute, the action of ejectment has ceased to be a fictitious proceeding, and is now brought by and against the real parties interested, it was requisite to provide for the continuation of the action on the death of any of the parties, in the same way as in ordinary actions; which has been done by the 190th and nine following sections. (d)

Consequence of the death of a party to an action of ejectment.

For those causes of action which are sustainable against \*an executor in respect of the acts of the deceased, the plaintiff, on the death of a *sole* executor, may maintain the action against his executor; for the executor of such executor is, to all intents and purposes, the executor and representative of the first testator. (e) But on the death of an executor without appointing an executor of his own, or on the death of an administrator, the actions above mentioned must be brought against the administrator *de bonis non*. (f)

Remedies against executor of executor.

With respect to the remedies for the *devastavit* of an executor or administrator, in the event of his death, it has already appeared (g) that, at common law, no executor or administrator was answerable for a *devastavit* by his testator or intestate. But by the statute 30 Car. 2, c. 7, and 4 & 5 W. & M. c. 24, s. 12, this defect has been remedied. (h) So that, since these statutes, if a judgment be recovered against an executor, who afterwards dies, an action may now be brought against his executor or administrator, suggesting a *devastavit* by the first executor. (i) And in every case where the executor in his lifetime was in any way guilty of any act which amounts in law to a *devastavit*, such as exhausting the assets by payment of debts of an inferior degree before those of a superior, and the like, an action may be brought against the executor or administrator of such executor, suggesting

(c) See Chitty's Archbold, 514, Prentice's ed.

(d) See Quain and Holroyd's Treatise on the Common Law Procedure Act, 138 *et seq.*

(e) See *ante*, 254.

(f) See *ante*, 470.

(g) *Ante*, 1729.

(h) *Ante*, 1729. See the observations

of Wood V. C. on these statutes, in Thorne v. Kerr, 2 Kay & J. 63, 64. But the statute of 30 Car. 2 was held not to make an executor of an executrix *de son tort* liable for a breach of contract committed by the person with whose property the executrix *de son tort* has intermeddled. Wilson v. Hodson, L. R. 7 Ex. 84.

(i) See *ante* 1989.

a *devastavit* by the former executor. (*k*) Such actions must obviously be brought in the *detinet* only, and the judgment must be *de bonis testatoris*. (*l*)

It may be mentioned that in one case the court permitted \* a suggestion to be entered on the roll, under the court of requests' act, in an action brought by an administrator. (*m*) But in an action brought *against* an executor they refused it, saying that it could not be meant to give the court of conscience a jurisdiction over executors; and that, if there was no express exception, there was one implied from the nature and reason of the thing. (*n*) By the 66th section of the county courts act (9 & 10 Vict. c. 95), an executor or administrator may be sued in the county court as if he were a party in his own right. (*o*)

Executors and administrators are within the custom of foreign attachment; and, therefore, if a plaint be entered in the court of the mayor or sheriff of London against an executor or administrator, the plaintiff may attach money or goods belonging to the deceased in the hands of another within the city. (*p*) But a debt due to the deceased cannot be attached on a plaint against his personal representative, although he be sued under that description, unless he be sued for a debt due from the deceased. (*q*) Nor shall there be an attachment, for the debt of a testator, of goods or money in the hands of the executor, unless they were due or belonging to the testator at the time of his death, although they be assets; as, if an executor sell the goods of the testator, the money cannot be attached in his hands. (*r*) Nor, if he take a bond for a debt due to the testator, can the money payable on the money be attached. (*s*)

(*k*) 1 Saund. 219 *e, f*, note (8) to *Kenyon*.) But the creditor of an intestate could not, under the custom of London, attach any of his debts by levying a plaint against the ordinary. 1 *Ld. Raym.* 57; 3 *Salk.* 49.

(*l*) *Ib.*

(*m*) *Wase v. Wyburd*, Dougl. 246.

(*n*) *Ailway v. Burrows*, Dougl. 263.

(*o*) See *ante*, 1898.

(*p*) *Masters v. Lewis*, 1 *Ld. Raym.* 57; *S. C.* 3 *Salk.* 49; *Com. Dig. Attachment, B.*; *Fisher v. Lane*, 3 *Wils.* 297; *S. C.* 2 *W. Bl.* 834. (See, however, *contra*, *Barrymore v. Taylor*, 1 *Esp.* 326, per Lord

(*q*) *Com. Dig. Attachment, D.*; *Hodges v. Cox*, Cro. Eliz. 843; *Toller*, 478.

(*r*) *Horsam v. Target*, 1 *Ventr.* 113; *S. C.* 1 *Lev.* 306; *Com. Dig. Attachment, D.*

(*s*) *Ib.*

Nor, if an \* executor recover damages in trespass for the testator's goods, or on a covenant made with him, can there be an attachment of the damages. (t) Nor, if money be awarded to an executor on a submission by him of controversies between his testator and another person, can the money due by the award be attached. (u) Nor can there be an attachment of a legacy; for creditors have an interest in it, and they are incapable of being warned. (x) A creditor who after his debtor's death obtains an attachment against part of the assets, gains no priority as against the other creditors of the deceased. (y)

Where the lessee of lands dies before the expiration of the term and his executor or administrator continues in possession during the remainder, a distress may be taken for rent due for the whole term. (z) And the executor or administrator cannot plead *plene administravit* in bar to the avowry. (a) So the distress may be taken by virtue of the stat. 8 Ann. c. 14, ss. 6 and 7, within six months after the determination of the tenancy, if the executor or administrator continues in possession. (b)

Remedy  
against ex-  
ecutor by  
distress:

The death of either party is the countermand of a warrant of attorney to confess judgment; (c) and, therefore, upon a motion to enter up judgment, if it appeared that the defendant is dead, the court will not grant the motion. (d)

judgment  
cannot be  
entered on  
warrant of  
attorney or

(t) *Horsam v. Target*, 1 Ventr. 113; S. C. 1 Lev. 306; Com. Dig. Attachment, D.

(u) 1 Ventr. 112; 1 Lev. 306.

(z) *Scurra v. Merciall*, 1 Roll. Abr. 551, tit. Customs de London, E. pl. 2; *Wood v. Smith, Noy*, 115; *Chamberlain v. Chamberlain*, 1 Chanc. Cas. 257; Com. Dig. Attachment, D.

(y) *Redhead v. Welton*, 29 Beav. 521. Proceedings by attachment, commenced after the death of the defendant, are null and void. *Matthey v. Wiseman*, 34 L. J. C. P. 216.

(z) *Wentw. Off. Ex.* 291, 14th ed.; *Braithwaite v. Cooksey*, 1 H. Bl. 465.

(a) *Wentw. ubi supra*.

(b) 1 H. Bl. 465. [A distress for the non-payment of a tax cannot be made after the death of the person on whom the

tax is assessed. *Wilson v. Shearer*, 9 Met. 504, 506. *Shaw C. J.* in this case said:

"In the analogous case of an executor it has been held that the property left by the deceased debtor cannot be levied upon after his decease. *Jewett v. Smith*, 12 Mass. 309. The reason seems to be equally strong in case of a tax warrant, which is in the nature of an execution. The debtor has ceased to have any property in the goods, and the property vests in his administrator, by relation, from the time of the intestate's death."

(c) See *ante*, 906; *Tidd*, 551, 9th ed.

(d) *Tidd*, 561, 9th ed.; *Harden v. Forsyth*, 1 Q. B. 177. It will make no difference that the defendant, by the memorandum on the warrant, agreed for himself and his executor that it should be lawful

cognovit  
given by  
testator.

However, formerly, if the defendant died in vacation, within \* a year after giving the warrant of attorney, judgment might be entered up, of course, at any time after, in that vacation. (e) But now by rule 56, Rules H. T. 1853, "all judgments, whether interlocutory or final, shall be entered of record of the day of the month and year, whether in term or vacation, when signed, and shall not have relation to any other day. But that it shall be competent for the court or a judge to order a judgment to be entered *nunc pro tunc*." (f) So a cognovit *actionem* is revoked by the death of the party. (g)

Proceeding  
against  
executor  
on refer-  
ence to ar-  
bitration  
by testator.

There has already been occasion to consider, in cases of arbitration, the effect of the death of either party, before or after the making of the award. (h) It may here be observed, that the court will not grant an attachment against an executor for the non-performance of an award, which was made under a reference by rule of court entered into by the testator. (i)

Liability of  
executor to  
pay an at-  
torney's  
bill after  
taxation.

If an attorney's or solicitor's bill against the testator should be referred to taxation after his death, questions of difficulty may arise as to the effect of the order for payment by the executor or administrator of the sum found due. In cases where justice requires that the order for taxation should be made, and it nevertheless appears probable that, by reason of deficiency of assets, or the like, payment of the amount found to be due ought not to be made without further investigation, the court or judge by whom the order for taxation is made, ought, it should seem, to abstain from adding the usual order for payment or the delivery up of deeds. (k)

Proceed-  
ings  
against ex-  
ecutor.

\* If, when a bill of exchange becomes due, and is dishonored, the drawer or indorser is dead, notice of the dishonor ought to be given to his personal representative. (l)

to enter up judgment at any time, notwithstanding he should be dead. *Heath v. Brindley*, 2 Ad. & El. 365.

(e) *Ib.*; *ante*, 907.

(f) See, as to the construction of this proviso, *ante*, 895.

(g) See *Chitty's Archbold*, 883, *Pren-ice's ed.*

(h) *Ante*, 907, 908.

(i) *Newton v. Walker*, *Willes*, 315.

(k) See *In re Dalby*, 8 Beav. 469.

(l) *Chitty on Bills*, 369, 8th ed.; *Roscoe on Bills*, 199; *Byles on Bills*, 216, 5th ed. [Even before he is qualified for the active duties of his office. *Shoenberger v. Lancaster Savings Institution*, 28 Penn. St. 459.] In America it has been held that where the indorser of a note is dead

Where the drawee, acceptor, or maker, is dead, the bill or note must be presented to his executors or administrators, (*m*) unless where the bill is made payable and is presented at a particular place, in which case it is not necessary to present it also at the house of the executor or administrator. (*n*) In case there is no representative, the holder should demand payment at the house of the deceased. (*o*) If the holder of a bill makes the acceptor his executor, and dies, this discharge of the debt, by making the debtor executor, (*p*) will operate as a discharge of the drawer and prior indorsers. (*q*)

executors of parties or bills of exchange.

Where an injunction had issued against the defendants in an equity suit, restraining them from disposing of the estate of their testator, the court of exchequer refused to stay proceedings against them in an action in which the debt was not admitted, observing that the injunction might be a ground for applying to stay execution. (*r*)

Effect of injunction.

A verdict against a testator or intestate may be produced in evidence against his executor or administrator, and binds him. (*s*)

Verdict against testator evidence against executor.

at the time it becomes due, and there are executors or administrators at that time known to the holder, notice must be given them; but that if there are no personal representatives at the time, a notice sent to the residence of his family is sufficient, and that it is not necessary afterwards to give notice to executors or administrators, subsequently becoming such. *Merchant's Bank v. Birch*, 17 Johns. R. 25; *Bayley*, 418; *Amer. ed. Roscoe on Bills*, note (44); [*Stewart v. Eden*, 2 Caines, 121; *Massachusetts Bank v. Oliver*, 10 Cush. 567; *Beals v. Peck*, 12 Barb. 245; *Mathewson v. Strafford Bank*, 45 N. H. 104, 107; *Rand v. Hubbard*, 4 Met. 252; *Oriental Bank v. Blake*, 22 Pick. 206. But if the notice is sent to a place where the deceased did not reside, it will be sufficient. *Willis v. Green*, 5 Hill, 232.]

(*m*) *Roscoe on Bills*, 147. [It was held in *Hale v. Burr*, 12 Mass. 86, that where the maker of a promissory note dies, and an administrator is appointed before the note falls due, a demand upon the admin-

istrator is not necessary in order to charge the indorser, unless the maturity of the note happens more than a year after the appointment of the administrator; and the reason is that by the law of Massachusetts no executor or administrator is held to answer to the suit of any creditor of the testator or intestate, if brought within one year from the appointment of the executor or administrator, unless, &c. *Oriental Bank v. Blake*, 22 Pick. 207, 208.]

(*n*) *Philpott v. Bryant*, 3 C. & P. 224.

(*o*) *Roscoe on Bills*, 147.

(*p*) See *ante*, 1312.

(*q*) *Chitty on Bills*, 569, 8th ed.; *Roscoe on Bills*, 81.

(*r*) *Davis v. Salter*, 2 Cr. & Jerv. 486.

(*s*) *R. v. Hebden*, Andr. 389; *Rosc. Ev.* 100, 2d ed. See *Smith v. Smith*, 3 Bing. N. C. 29, as to the admissibility of the declarations of the deceased, as evidence against the executor or administrator. See, also, *Spiers v. Morris*, 9 Bing. 687, as to the admissibility of entries made by a deceased executor against his interest.



\* In an action against executors for money had and received by their testator, the plaintiff relied on an admission of the testator contained in his will. Notice had been given to the defendants to produce the probate, but no evidence was given to prove that the probate was in their possession. An officer of the spiritual court produced a document purporting to be the original will of the deceased, bearing the seal of the court, and also an indorsement, made by the officer of the spiritual court, purporting that probate had been granted to the defendants on that instrument as of the will of the deceased, and that they had made oath of the value of the effects accordingly. It was objected, on the part of the defendant, that the will should have been proved by one of the subscribing witnesses, and further, that probate not being produced, the next best evidence was the act of the spiritual court, which was not produced. But it was held that the document produced must be taken as proving that the defendants had obtained probate of the paper, and had therefore treated it as the will of their testator, and consequently that it ought to be received against them, at all events, as secondary, if not as original, evidence. (t)

(t) *Gorton v. Dyson*, 1 Brod. & Bing. 219. See *ante*, 1945. See, also, *ante*, 1889.

[2004]

## \* CHAPTER THE SECOND.

## OF REMEDIES AGAINST EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS IN EQUITY.

AN executor or administrator is liable, in his representative character, to all equitable demands, with regard to personal property, which existed against the deceased at the time of his death. (a)

What suits in equity may be brought against executors, &c.

Again, executors and administrators are, in almost every respect, considered, in courts of equity, as trustees. Upon this principle, those courts exercise a jurisdiction over them, in the administration of assets, by compelling them, in the due execution of their trust, to apply the property to the payment of debts and legacies, and the surplus, according to the will, or, in case of intestacy, according to the statute of distributions. (b)

Hence, a court of equity will entertain a bill, or make an order, for payment of a personal legacy ; (b<sup>1</sup>) or for the distribution of an

(a) Toller, 479.

(b) *Adair v. Shaw*, 1 Sch. & Lef. 262. Other auxiliary grounds of jurisdiction also exist ; such as the necessity of taking accounts and compelling a discovery, and the consideration that the remedy at law, when it exists, is not plain, adequate, and complete. See Story's Eq. Jur. c. ix. § 534 ; [*Walker v. Cheever*, 35 N. H. 339 ; *Parsons v. Parsons*, 9 N. H. 309 ; *ante*, 1036, note (e)]. In North Carolina the probate judge alone, in administrations granted since July 1, 1869, has jurisdiction to compel the administrator to a settlement and to state his account, and apportion the assets among the creditors. But every action brought in the probate court to recover a debt against an administrator is necessarily a creditor's bill, as all the creditors must be brought in and

their claims ascertained before any judgment for the payment of any one can be given. That court also has power, upon a deficiency of assets, to order a sale of the lands. *Ballard v. Kilpatrick*, 71 N. Car. 281, 282 ; *Pelletier v. Saunders*, 67 N. Car. 261. So in that state the probate court has general jurisdiction of actions to recover legacies. *Bell v. King*, 70 N. Car. 330 ; *Bidwell v. King*, 71 N. Car. 287. The action must be brought against the executor in the probate court of the county in which the will was proved. *Stanly v. Mason*, 69 N. Car. 1 ; *Foy v. Morehead*, 69 N. Car. 512 ; *Bidwell v. King*, 71 N. Car. 287. As to the remedy in that state to recover a distributive share of an estate, see *Williams v. Williams*, 71 N. Car. 427.]

(b<sup>1</sup>) [*Ante*, 1931, note (k<sup>1</sup>).]

intestate's personal estate; (c) and will compel an executor or administrator, in the same manner as it does an express trustee, to discover and set forth an account of the assets, and of his application of them. (d) And even in a case where the testator directed that the executor should \*not be compelled by law to declare the amount of a residue bequeathed to him, the court directed an account against him. (e) So an account has been decreed of an intestate's personal estate, notwithstanding an account before taken, and a distribution decreed, in the spiritual court. (f) And a bill may be brought for the discovery of assets, before the will is proved, or during the litigation thereof in the probate court. (g)

(c) Com. Dig. Chancery, 3 D. 1; Howard v. Howard, 1 Vern. 134; [Crann v. Green, 6 Ham. 542; ante, 1933, note (o).]

(d) [See ante, 1901, note (f), and cases cited.] In Brooks v. Oliver, Amb. 406, the acting executor, to whom the produce of an estate in Antigua, belonging to an infant, was consigned, was directed to account annually by affidavit. [A bill in equity may be sustained for an account between executors, or between a surviving executor and the administrator of a deceased executor. Stiver v. Stiver, 8 Ham. 217.]

(e) Gibbons v. Dawley, 2 Chanc. Cas. 198. But the rule of the court of chancery has always been that the plaintiff must aver and prove at least one act of wilful neglect or default in order to obtain a decree directing an inquiry as to wilful neglect or default; nor will the court direct a preliminary inquiry unless the fact of wilful neglect or default can be treated as in issue between the parties, or unless, if in issue, there is evidence upon it. Sleight v. Lawson, 3 Kay & J. 292; Coope v. Carter, 2 De G., M. & G. 292. It is not sufficient ground for an inquiry that a general allegation that there are outstanding assets, without specifying particulars, is not met by a distinct denial. Massey v. Massey, 2 Johns. & H. 728. [See Ashburn v. Ashburn, 16 Geo. 213.]

(f) Bissell v. Axtell, 2 Vern. 47. [On

a bill against an administrator for the discovery of assets, he may show that he has fully administered, notwithstanding a judgment at law against him, admitting assets. Bedell v. Keethley, 5 T. B. Mon. 598.]

(g) Dulwich College v. Johnson, 2 Vern. 49; Phipps v. Steward, 1 Atk. 285; ante, 308; [1901, note (f)]. In some of the American States the business of administering upon the estates of persons deceased is transacted in courts of probate, or other courts of like jurisdiction, independent of courts of equity. These courts of probate are generally clothed with ample authority for conducting all the ordinary proceedings in the settlement and disposition of such estates. In New Hampshire, in the case of Walker v. Cheever, 35 N. H. 345, Eastman J. said: "Under the English practice, courts of equity assume a very general jurisdiction over cases of administration, from the fact that the courts of common law and ecclesiastical courts in that country are held not to have powers adequate to give effectual relief. This jurisdiction is said to have been founded upon the principle that it is the duty of the court to enforce the execution of trusts. But it has been also said that other grounds exist, such as the necessity of taking accounts and compelling a discovery. With us there is no necessity for assuming any such general jurisdiction in equity upon this subject. Our

A single creditor may sue in equity for his demand out of the personal assets, and may, as at law, gain a preference by the judgment in his favor, over other creditors in the same degree, who

statutes providing for the settlement and distribution of estates, in most cases, give ample powers to the courts of probate and of common law to enforce all needful remedies to secure the rights of all parties, and so far as the statutes may apply in the settlement of estates, they take from chancery its jurisdiction." See *Parsons v. Parsons*, 9 N. H. 309. In *Massachusetts* it was decided, in the case of *Morgan v. Rotch*, 97 Mass. 396, that an executor, who has not settled a final account in the probate court, is not liable to be charged by suit in equity, by the residuary legatees, for property sold by him in violation of his trust, although all the dispositions of the will prior to the residuary clause have been satisfied. The rule laid down and followed in this case, as in *Wilson v. Leishman*, 12 Met. 316, is that the remedy in such cases is not to be sought in a court of equity, so long as plain, adequate, and complete relief can be obtained in the probate court. In *Morgan v. Rotch*, 97 Mass. 399, Foster J. said: "A very different case from the present would be presented if the executor's account had been finally settled in ignorance of the improper character of the sale. Then, perhaps, a court of equity, if the remedy in the probate court were lost, might enforce a trust and order a new sale by the executor, or afford other appropriate relief to enable the parties beneficially interested in the estate to realize the full value of the property." In some states courts of equity have interfered in the settlement of estates of persons deceased, on occasions of difficulty, and in aid of the courts of probate. See *Pharis v. Leachman*, 20 Ala. 662; *Stewart v. Stewart*, 31 Ala. 207; *Ledyard v. Johnston*, 16 Ala. 548; *Hagan v. Walker*, 14 How. (U. S.) 29; *Freeland v. Dazey*, 25 Ill. 294; *Adams v. Adams*, 22 Vt. 50; *Morse v. Slason*, 13 Vt. 296; *West v. Bank of Rutland*, 19 Vt. 403; *Gaines v. Chew*, 2 How. (U. S.) 619; *Parsons v.*

*Parsons*, 9 N. H. 309; *Beattie v. Abercrombie*, 18 Ala. 9; *Walker v. Cheever*, 35 N. H. 339; 1 Story Eq. Jur. § 543 *a*. In some of the American States courts of equity seem to have assumed to some extent a concurrent jurisdiction with the courts of probate in matters connected with the settlement of estates. In *Gould v. Hayes*, 19 Ala. 438, it was held that the original jurisdiction of equity is not affected by the statutory jurisdiction conferred on the orphan's court, and similar tribunals, except where there are prohibitory or other restrictive words. See *Freeland v. Dazey*, 25 Ill. 294; *Seymour v. Seymour*, 4 John. Ch. 409; *Van Mater v. Sickler*, 1 Stockt. 483; *Clarke v. Johnston*, 2 Stockt. 287; *Fleming v. McKesson*, 3 Jones Eq. 316; *Colbert v. Daniel*, 32 Ala. 329; *Morse v. Slason*, 13 Vt. 296; *S. C. 16 Vt. 319*; *Trescott v. Trescott*, 1 McCord Ch. 417. In a suit by bill in equity by the administrators with the will annexed of the estate of the deceased in Rhode Island, to obtain the advice of the court in relation to the construction of the will and the operation and effect of the Rhode Island statute of wills and canons of descent, under the circumstances stated in the bill, for the purpose of aiding the court of probate to a correct decree of distribution, it was held that the supreme court has the power to proceed to the final settlement and distribution of estates of deceased persons when the fund and the parties are before it—its decrees will bind all parties who have been properly notified, either by personal or substituted service—and the court will exonerate executors and administrators for payments made according to its decree. *Daboll v. Field*, 9 R. I. 266, 285, 286. Potter J. in this case said: "It is contended by the administrators, that this court has no jurisdiction to settle accounts and decree distribution, because that is in the exclusive jurisdiction

may not have used equal diligence. (*h*) But a person entitled to a share of a sum of money, which is due as a debt from the testator, cannot maintain a bill for his own share, unless he sues on behalf of himself and all other parties interested in the debt, or makes those other persons parties to the suit. (*i*)

The usual course, before the passing of 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, (*k*) was for one or more creditors to file a bill (commonly called a creditors' bill), by and on behalf of him or themselves, and all other creditors who should come in under the decree, for an account of the assets and a due settlement of the estate. For in order to prevent inconvenient \* preference in the administration of assets, as well as to avoid the burden which several suits by several creditors could not fail to bring on the fund to be administered, a court of equity always allowed a creditor to sue on behalf of himself and the other creditors of the deceased, and has thereupon directed a general account of the estate and debts to be taken against the executor or administrator, (*l*) or, if assets were admitted, and the debt admitted or proved, has made an immediate decree for payment. (*m*)

Upon the same principle a legatee has always been permitted to sue on behalf of himself and other legatees; and, even under the old practice, a bill has been admitted by a person claiming under a general description on behalf of himself and the other persons equally entitled under the same description. (*n*)

But although it has been the practice of the court in cases of this kind to entertain suits by creditors, legatees, and parties entitled in distribution on behalf of themselves and all others, and to

of the court of probate." "Before the supreme court had equity powers, the jurisdiction of the court of probate was indeed exclusive, because there was no other court which had any power over matters of this kind. But since full equity jurisdiction was conferred upon this court, it has power, when a proper bill is filed, and it has the fund and the parties before it, to proceed to a final settlement and distribution, if the nature of the case renders it proper."]

(*h*) See *ante*, 1035; Mitf. Pl. 166, 167, 4th ed. See *Atty. Gen. v. Cornthwaite*, 2 Cox, 44; [*McCoy v. Green*, 3 John. Ch. 58.]

(*i*) *Alexander v. Mullins*, 2 Russ. & My. 568.

(*k*) See *post*, 2008.

(*l*) Mitf. Pl. 166, 4th ed. A creditor having *debitum in presenti solvendum in futuro* may maintain such a suit. *Whitmore v. Oxborrow*, 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 13. And so may a claimant under a voluntary covenant. *Watson v. Parker*, 6 Beav. 283, note (*n*). After a decree in the suit, the executor cannot do any act to affect the relative rights of creditors. By Sir John Leach *M. R.* in *Shewen v. Vandenhurst*, 2 Russ. & My. 75; 1 Russ. & My. 347, S. C.

(*m*) *Woodgate v. Field*, 2 Hare, 211.

(*n*) Mitf. Plead. 169, 4th ed.

exonerate the executor or administrator for payment of assets pursuant to its decree, yet it is not to be understood that such a decree is absolutely binding upon the absent creditors, legatees, or distributees, who have had no opportunity of proving and presenting their claims, (*o*) and have been guilty of no laches, (*p*) so that they are entitled to no redress, but are to be deemed concluded. On the contrary, although they have no remedy against the executor or administrator, yet they have a right to assert their claim \* against the creditors, legatees, or distributees who have received it. (*q*)

It is, however, no longer necessary for creditors and other parties interested to file a bill or claim, for the purpose of enforcing their claims upon the *personal* estate of a deceased. For by stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 45, it is enacted that "it shall be lawful for any person claiming to be a creditor, or a specific, pecuniary, or residuary legatee, or the next of kin, or some or one of the next of kin, of a deceased person, to apply for and obtain as of course, without bill or claim filed, or any other preliminary proceedings, a summons (*r*) from the master of the rolls, or any of the vice chancellors, requiring the executor or administrator, as the case may be, of such deceased person, to attend before him at chambers, for the purpose of showing cause why an order for the administration of the personal estate of the deceased should not be granted; and upon proof by affidavit of the due service of such summons, or on the appearance in person, or by his solicitor or counsel, of such executor or administrator, and upon proof by affidavit of such other matters, if any, as such judge shall require, it shall be lawful for such judge, if in his discretion he shall think fit so to do, to make the usual order (*s*) for the administration of

Stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, sect. 45, creditor, &c. may obtain an order for the administration of the personal estate:

(*o*) *David v. Frowd*, 1 My. & K. 200. See *Anon.* 9 Price, 210.

(*p*) *Sawyer v. Brichmore*, 1 Keen, 391; 2 My. & Cr. 211. See, also, *Cattell v. Simons*, 8 Beav. 143.

(*q*) *Story on Equity Plead.* ch. iv. s. 106; *ante*, 1450, 1451.

(*r*) But the case must be a simple case of administration. *Acaster v. Anderson*, 19 Beav. 161; *Rump v. Greenhill*, 20 Beav. 512; *Smite v. Spilsbury*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 151. The summons may be in a form similar

to the form set forth in Schedule (K) to the Orders, with such variations as the circumstances of the case may require. Cons. Orders, xxxv. 3. The court has no authority under Cons. Orders, x. 7, to order the service abroad of an administration summons. *Lester v. Bond*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 392.

(*s*) The only decree which can be made upon summons under this section is the usual decree, i. e. a decree that the executor or administrator shall account for the

the estate of the \* deceased, with such variations, if any, as the circumstances of the case may require; and the order so made shall have the force and effect of a decree to the like effect made on the hearing of a cause or claim between the same parties; provided that such judge shall have full discretionary power to grant or refuse such order, or to give any special directions touching the carriage or execution of such order, and in the case of applications for any such order by two or more different persons or classes of persons, to grant the same to such one or more of the claimants, or of the classes of claimants, as he may think fit, and if the judge shall think proper, the carriage of the order may subsequently be given to such party interested and upon such terms as the judge may direct." (t)

By sect. 47 of the same statute it is provided that creditors, &c. may obtain a similar order for the administration of the real estate of the deceased person, where the whole of such real estate is by devise vested in trustees who are by the will empowered to sell the same. (u)

Under this enactment it was still necessary to file a bill or claim, where the object sought was the administration of the real estate, if not devised in trust for sale. However, by 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 14, the devisee in trust is empowered \* to raise money by sale, notwithstanding want of express power in the will, where the real estate or any specific portion thereof is charged with the payment of debts, or with the payment of any legacy, or other specific sum of money; and it is presumed

personal estate which has been received by him, and it confers no jurisdiction to make on summons in chambers a decree that he shall account for what without his wilful neglect or default he might have received, or to make him accountable for any misconduct. And it matters not whether the usual decree was made upon bill or summons. If in the process of investigating the accounts under the usual decree the plaintiff discovers that the defendant has been guilty of wilful neglect or default in getting the assets or other misconduct, his remedy is by filing (with the leave of the court) a supplemental bill adapted to the purpose, which is to all intents and purposes a bill of revivor.

*Partington v. Reynolds*, 4 Drew. 253. See, also, *Smith v. Spilsbury*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 151.

(t) An order is as conclusive as a decree against parties neglecting to come in and prove their claims under it. Cons. Orders, xxxv. 12. And the proceedings under it are precisely similar to those under a decree. For proceedings at chambers generally, see Cons. Orders, xxxv.

(u) See *De la Salle v. Moorat*, L. R. 11 Eq. Ca. 8. A creditor cannot have a decree for the administration of the real estate unless he sues on behalf of all creditors. *Ponsford v. Hartley*, 2 Johns. & H. 736.

that in all such cases creditors may now avail themselves of the provisions of 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 47, and obtain an order for the administration of the real estate.

By the 1st rule of sect. 42 it is enacted, that "any residuary legatee or next of kin may, without serving the remaining residuary legatees or next of kin, have a decree for the administration of the personal estate of a deceased person." (u<sup>1</sup>)

Residuary legatees and next of kin may have a decree for the administration of personal estate, without service on the rest:

This places residuary legatees and next of kin upon the same footing with specific pecuniary legatees in respect of the manner of enforcing their claims against the personal estate of the deceased. (v)

By the 2d rule of the same section, "any legatee interested in a legacy charged upon real estate, and any person interested in the proceeds of real estate directed to be sold, may, without serving any other legatee or person interested in the proceeds of the estate, have a decree for the administration of the estate of a deceased person."

so of a legatee of legacy charged on real estate.

After the usual decree, every creditor has an interest in the suit, (x) and is, in a sense, deemed to be before the court; yet, until decree, the plaintiff, it should seem, is *dominus litis*, so that he may deal with the suit as he pleases; and he may settle the matter with the executor, by \* the latter paying the debt and costs of the suit, and compromise the suit, and relinquish proceedings. (y) And indeed the court will compel the creditor to accept payment of his debt, when the executor offers to pay it with the costs of the suit. (z)

Until decree the plaintiff is *dominus litis*.

(u<sup>1</sup>) [See *Matter of Kirkpatrick*, 22 N. J. Eq. 463. When the residuary legatee is a corporation aggregate, and the executor named in the will dies before the testator, administration will be granted to a member of the corporation named by them for the purpose. *Matter of Kirkpatrick*, *supra*.]

(v) As to the necessity of revivor upon the death of a co-plaintiff residuary legatee since this rule, see *Hinde v. Morton*, 2 Hemm. & M. 368, and the cases there cited.

(x) See *Sterndale v. Hankinson*, 1 Sim. 399, 400; *Cook v. Bolton*, 5 Russ. 282;

*Brown v. Lake*, 2 Coll. 620; *Smith v. Guy*, 2 Phill. C. C. 159. It would appear that under the old practice only creditors whose debts were due at the death of the testator were in strictness permitted to come in under the decree; the present practice is to admit all creditors to come in whose debts have become due before the date of the report. *Thomas v. Griffith*, 2 De G., F. & J. 555, per Turner L. J.

(y) 2 Hare, 213; *Wood v. Westall*, 1 Younge, 305.

(z) 2 Hare, 213; *Pemberton v. Topham*, 1 Beav. 316; *Holden v. Kynaston*, 2 Beav. 204.



It may be further remarked, that there is nothing to prevent other creditors from instituting suits for the like purpose; and as it is possible that, before the decree, the litigating creditor may stop his suit, the court permits them to go on together until a decree in one of them is obtained. (a) So, also, in the case of several persons claiming under the same general description. And when the usual decree has been obtained in one of such suits, if another suit is instituted, praying no further relief than might be had in the former suit, the parties to such former suit ought to apply to have the proceedings in the latter suit stayed; otherwise the costs of it may be dealt with as costs in their suit. (b) On the application to stay the proceedings, the question is, whether the suit which is sought to be stayed asks something more than could be obtained under the existing decree. (c)

\* The 45th sect. of 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, stated above, (d) gives authority to the judge to deal, as he may think fit, with applications for an administration order by different persons or classes of persons.

Executor.  
&c. liable  
to be sued  
for testa-  
tor's debts  
from mo-  
ment of  
death.

It must be observed that, although an executor has a year allowed him in equity to pay legacies, yet that does not extend to debts, but he is liable to be sued the moment after the testator's death. (e)

(a) 2 Hare, 214. As to staying proceedings in the other suits, see *Hawkes v. Barrett*, 5 Madd. 17; *Turner v. Dorgan*, 12 Sim. 504; *Reid v. Territt*, 1 Coll. 1; *Dryden v. Foster*, 6 Beav. 146; *Frowd v. Baker*, 4 Beav. 76; *Portarlington v. Damer*, 2 Phill. C. C. 262; *Duffort v. Arrow-smith*, 7 De G., M. & G. 434; *Harris v. Gandy*, 1 De G., F. & J. 13.

(b) *Therry v. Henderson*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 481.

(c) *Rigby v. Strangways*, 2 Phill. C. C. 175; *Rump v. Greenhill*, 20 Beav. 512. Where two decrees had been made for the administration of the estate of the deceased, one in a creditors' suit, and the other in a legatees' suit, *Shadwell V. C.* refused a motion by the plaintiff in the former to stay the prosecution of the decree in the latter, so far as it directed an account of the deceased's estate and of his debts, there being no suggestion of a de-

ciency of assets. *Plunkett v. Lewis*, 11 Sim. 379. See, also, *Suisse v. Lord Lowther*, 2 Hare, 424. In *Gwyer v. Peterson*, 26 Beav. 83, the common administration decree having been made in a suit by one of the next of kin, a second suit was instituted six months afterwards by another next of kin praying additional relief. The court stayed the second suit on defendant in the first undertaking not to object to any additions which the judge at chambers might think reasonable. *Hoskins v. Campbell*, 2 Hemm. & M. 42; *Belcher v. Belcher*, 2 Dr. & Sm. 444, in which case *Kindersley V. C.* expressed his strong disapprobation of the practice of instituting a second suit where there was already an existing suit properly constituted for the same purpose.

(d) *Ante*, 2008.

(e) *Nicholls v. Judson*, 2 Atk. 301. [In Massachusetts, and other states, no execu-

A debtor to a testator cannot maintain a bill against the personal representative, to obtain the directions of the court as to the disposal of the money due by him, and to restrain an action, brought by the personal representative to recover the debt, on the ground that the debt has been appropriated by the testator for a particular purpose, and that the personal representative intends to apply it for purposes not warranted by the will. (*f*)

Bill against executor by testator's debtor to restrain action on ground of intended misappropriation of the fund not maintainable.

If letters of administration be granted to an infant, under which he receives and disposes of assets of the intestate, an account cannot be directed in respect of his receipts during his infancy. (*g*)

No account of receipts by infant administrator.

If, pending a suit, the defendant dies, it shall be continued by an order of revivor against his executor or administrator, whether before or after decree, and whether or not an admission of assets is sought; (*h*) but where a defendant dies \* before appearance the suit cannot be revived against his representatives. (*i*)

Order of revivor.

If a decree be obtained against an executor for payment of a debt of his testator, and costs, out of the assets, and the executor dies, and his representative does not become the representative of the testator, the suit may be revived against the representative of the testator, (*k*) and the assets of the testator may be pursued in his hands, without reviving against the representative of the original defendant. (*l*)

The general rule is, that if there are several executors or admin-

istrator or administrator can be held to answer to the suit of any creditor of the deceased within one year after he has given bond. Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 97, § 16; *ante*, 1946, note (*u*<sup>1</sup>). See *Butts v. Genung*, 5 Paige, 254; *Daniel v. Lehre*, 2 Strobb. Eq. 83; *Womack v. Greenwood*, 6 Geo. 299.]

(*f*) *Darthez v. Winter*, 2 Sim. & Stu. 536.

(*g*) *Hindmarsh v. Southgate*, 3 Russ. 324.

(*h*) *Dean of Ely v. Edwards*, 22 L. J. 629; *Edwards v. Batley*, 19 Beav. 457; *Cartwright v. Shephard*, 20 Beav. 112.

[But a suit pending cannot, on the death of the defendant, be continued against an

executor *de son tort*. *Irwin v. Sterling*, 27 Geo. 563.] As to length of time after which a revivor will be allowed, see *Bland v. Davison*, 21 Beav. 312; *Alsop v. Bell*, 24 Beav. 451. A solicitor having died pending an order for taxation, it was held that the proceedings might be revived by the client, and the solicitor's representatives by an *ex parte* order. *Re Nicholson*, 29 Beav. 665; *Re Waugh*, *ib.* 666.

(*i*) *Bland v. Davison*, 21 Beav. 312. [See *Hyde v. Leavitt*, 2 Taylor, 175; *Clindenin v. Allen*, 4 N. H. 385; *ante*, 1883, note (*q*<sup>1</sup>).]

(*k*) *Mitf. Pl.* 78, 4th ed.

(*l*) *Adair v. Shaw*, 1 Sch. & Lef. 262.

istrators, they must all be sued, though some of them be infants. (*m*)

Parties: Therefore, a person cannot, either as creditor or residuary legatee, bring a bill in equity against one co-executor only. (*n*) But it is only necessary to sue so many of the executors or administrators as have acted; for this is sufficient in law, (*o*) and much more in a court of equity. (*p*) Where an executor in trust was outlawed, and a witness proved that he had inquired after, and could not find him, it was held that it was not necessary to make him a party. (*q*)

\* If a bill is filed against a married woman, executrix or administratrix, her husband must also be a party, unless he is an exile, or has abjured the realm. (*r*) Hence, in *Taylor v. Allen*, (*s*) Lord Hardwicke granted an injunction to restrain a wife, executrix, from getting in the assets, her husband being in the West Indies, and not amenable to the process of the court, on the ground, that if she wasted the assets, or refused to pay, a creditor could have no remedy, inasmuch as her husband must be joined as a party to the suit against her.

If a bill is brought against an executor, during whose infancy the will appointed an executor *durante minore ætate*, the latter must be made a party, unless the former has received all the testator's personal estate from the hands of the temporary executor, upon an account between them. (*t*)

It seems to be now established, that in a suit for an account of the assets of a deceased person, the personal representative of his former representative is properly joined as a co-defendant with his continuing or present personal representative. (*t'*) Accordingly, in *Holland v. Prior*, (*u*)

in what cases it is necessary to make the executor, &c. a party:

(*m*) 16 Vin. Abr. 251, tit. Party, B. pl. 20; [*Clements v. Kellogg*, 1 Ala. 330; *Bregaw v. Claw*, 4 John. Ch. 116; *Brotten v. Bateman*, 2 Dev. Eq. 115.]

(*n*) *Scurry v. Morse*, 9 Mod. 89. In a case where a bill had been filed for an account of the testator's estate, and it was objected that one of the executors was not a party, he was ordered to be introduced into the decree then made, as a party, and ordered to account before the master, without putting off the cause to add parties. *Pitt v. Brewster*, Dick. 37.

(*o*) See *ante*, 1935.

(*p*) *Brown v. Pittman* Gilb. Eq. Rep.

75; *Strickland v. Strickland*, 12 Sim. 463; *Dyson v. Morris*, 1 Hare, 413.

(*q*) *Heath v. Percival*, 1 P. Wms. 684.

An administrator, though insolvent, must be made a party to a bill for a discovery of assets. *Ashurst v. Eyre*, 2 Atk. 51. So although he actually releases, he must be a party to the suit. *Smithby v. Hinton*, 1 Vern. 31.

(*r*) Mitf. Pl. 30, 4th ed.

(*s*) 2 Atk. 213.

(*t*) *Glass v. Oxenham*, 2 Atk. 121.

(*t'*) [*Sortore v. Scott*, 6 Lansing, 276, 277.]

(*u*) 1 My. & K. 237.

it was held by Lord Brougham, overruling the decision of Sir L. Shadwell V. C., that the executor of an administratrix, who had received assets of her intestate, might and ought to be made a defendant in a suit instituted by a creditor of the intestate. (x) But in *Masters v. Barnes*, (y) Knight Bruce \* V. C. held that it was not, in all cases, *necessary*, in an administration suit against a surviving executor, to bring before the court the representative of the deceased executor. However, subsequently, in *Hall v. Austin*, (a) his honor appears to have ultimately acceded to the proposition that, as a general rule, where there are several executors who have acted and one of them dies before any suit is instituted, a person interested in the administration of the estate cannot file a bill for the general administration of the estate, making the surviving executors alone parties.

The law, in this respect, has not been altered by the 32d order of August, 1841 (Cons. Orders, VII. 2); for it has been held (b)

(x) In *Phelps v. Sproule*; 4 Sim. 321, A. died, having made B. his executor, who, without proving A.'s will, possessed part of his assets. B. died and made C. his executrix, who proved his will and took out administration to A. A bill was filed against C. for an account of A.'s assets possessed by her and by B. Afterwards C. died, having made D. her executor, and E. took out administration to A. The plaintiff filed a bill of revivor and supplement against D. and E. to which D. demurred. And the demurrer was allowed by Shadwell V. C. on the ground that there was not that continued chain of representation which could justify a bill of revivor against D. But this case was questioned by Lord Brougham in *Holland v. Prior*, and by Knight Bruce V. C. in *Masters v. Barnes*.

(y) 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 616.

(a) 2 Coll. 570.

(b) *Biggs v. Penn*, 4 Hare, 469; *Hall v. Austin*, 2 Coll. 570. See, also, *Penny v. Penny*, 9 Hare, 39. By this order, in all cases in which the plaintiff has a joint and several demand against several persons, either as principal or sureties, it shall not be necessary to bring before the court as parties to a suit concerning such

demand all the persons liable thereto; but the plaintiff may proceed against one or more of the persons severally liable. Lord Langdale has several times decided that this order applies to a breach of trust, and consequently that if several executors or trustees have committed a breach of trust, they may be sued severally. *Perry v. Knott*, 5 Beav. 293; *Kellaway v. Johnson*, 5 Beav. 319. And Knight Bruce V. C. seems to have felt himself bound by these decisions. 2 Coll. 574. See, also, *Strong v. Strong*, 18 Beav. 408. But Wigram V. C. in *Shipton v. Rawlins*, 4 Hare, 619, 623, said he thought Lord Langdale did not intend to lay it down as a universal proposition, that wherever a state of circumstances existed which might constitute a breach of trust, if a loss were incurred, the *cestui que trust* can arbitrarily select any one trustee and charge him as for a breach of trust, whatever the nature of his complaint might be. And his honor proceeded to observe that the case of *Walker v. Symonds*, 3 Swanst. 75, as explained in *Munch v. Cockerell*, 8 Sim. 231, shows that all trustees are *prima facie* necessary parties to a suit complaining of a breach of trust, although execution might be taken out against one only. *Macgachen*

that this order does not apply to the case of a general administration suit.

There has already been occasion (*c*) to point out the \*necessity of making the personal representative a party to a suit by a claimant on the real estate, or other fund of a deceased debtor entitled to exoneration by the personal assets. And it may be stated as a general rule, that wherever the personal assets of a deceased person may be affected by the decree, his personal representative must be a party to the suit. (*d*)

Likewise, it is clearly established that an estate cannot be administered in a court of equity in the absence of a personal representative. (*e*) And, consequently, if the statements of the bill demonstrate that the court cannot give the plaintiff the relief which he asks without an administration of the estate, there must be a personal representative of it before the court. (*f*) Accordingly, on a demurrer to a bill seeking payment of a legacy out of assets come to the hands of the defendant, who was the husband of the sole executrix deceased, it was held by Lord Cottenham C. that an allegation that all the testator's debts and the other legacies bequeathed by his will had been paid, and that there were assets *ultra* in the hands of the defendant to satisfy the plaintiff's demand, was not sufficient to dispense with the presence of a personal representative of the testator, the allegation being one which, even if admitted by the defendant, the court would not take his word for. (*g*)

By 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 44, it is enacted, that "if in any \*suit Court may proceed in any suit, or other proceedings (*h*) before the court it shall appear to the court that any deceased person who was interested

*v. Dew*, 15 Beav. 84; *Devaynes v. Robinson*, 24 Beav. 86.

(*c*) *Ante*, 522.

(*d*) *Ante*, 522, 523. See, also, *Wilkinson v. Fowkes*, 9 Hare, 193; *Donald v. Bather*, 16 Beav. 26. But in a suit for an account by a surviving partner against a debtor to the firm, it is not in general necessary to make the personal representative of the deceased partner a party. *Haigh v. Gray*, 3 De G. & Sm. 741. The attorney general does not, as a party in the cause, sufficiently represent the estate of an illegitimate person who died intestate, so as to enable the court to dispense with a legal personal representative of such person duly constituted in the ecclesiastical court as a party. *Bell v. Alexander*, 6 Hare, 543.

(*e*) *Lowry v. Fulton*, 9 Sim. 104.

(*f*) 2 Phill. C. C. 153.

(*g*) *Penny v. Watts*, 2 Phill. C. C. 149. See, further, as to parties, stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 42, and Cons. Orders, VII. 1, 2.

(*h*) A special case under 13 & 14 Vict. c. 35, s. 1, is within this enactment. *Swallow v. Bins*, 9 Hare App. 47.

in the matters in question has no legal personal representative, it shall be lawful for the court either to proceed in the absence of any person representing the estate of such deceased person, or to appoint some person to represent such estate for all the purposes of the suit or other proceeding, on such notice to such person or persons, if any, as the court shall think fit, either specially or generally by public advertisements; and the order so made by the said court, and any orders consequent thereon, shall bind the estate of such deceased person in the same manner in every respect as if there had been a duly constituted legal personal representative of such deceased person, and such legal personal representative had been a party to the suit or proceeding, and had duly appeared and submitted his rights and interests to the protection of the court."

&c. without representative of deceased person, or may appoint one; stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 44.

This section, however, does not apply to the case where the estate to which it is desired to appoint a representative is the estate being administered by the court, but only to cases where an individual who, when living, was interested in the suit, and was made a party, has died. Then the court may either appoint a person to represent that party, or may proceed without any representative. (i) And in *Long v. Storie*, (k) Wood V. C. said that the power was only intended to be exercised where there is a difficulty in obtaining representation owing to the insolvency of the deceased, or some such cause. (l)

\* If the estate is to be administered, the executor *de son tort* being before the court will not dispense with the presence of a regular representative. He is only treated as executor for the purpose of being charged, not for any other purpose. (m)

If, indeed, an executor or administrator has so dealt with a

(i) *Silver v. Stein*, 1 Drew. 295, by Kindersley V. C.; *Maclean v. Dawson*, 27 Beav. 21; *Rogers v. Jones*, 1 Sm. & Giff. 17; *Bliss v. Putnam*, 29 Beav. 20. See, also, *Groves v. Levi*, 9 Hare App. 47.

(k) *Kay App.* 12.

(l) The person who would be appointed administrator *ad litem* is the most proper person to be nominated to represent a deceased party who has no personal representative under this section. *Dean and Chapter of Ely v. Gayford*, 16 Beav. 561

See, also, *Hele v. Lord Bexley*, 15 Beav. 340; *Fowler v. Bayldon*, 9 Hare App. 78; *Rawlins v. M'Mahon*, 1 Drew. 225; *Rogers v. Jones*, 1 Sm. & G. 17; *Rowland v. Evans*, 33 Beav. 202; *Jt. Stk. Diect. Co. v. Brown*, L. R. 8 Eq. Cas. 376. The cases on this section are fully collected in *Morgan's Chancery Acts and Orders*, 198.

(m) 2 Phill. C. C. 152; *Creasor v. Robinson*, 14 Beav. 589.

fund, that by reason of such dealing it has ceased to bear the character of a legacy or share of residue, and has assumed the character of a trust fund, in a sense different from that in which the executor or administrator held it, — if it has been taken out of the estate of the testator, and appropriated to, or made the property of, the *cestui que trust*, — it may not be necessary that the *cestui que trust* should bring before the court the personal representative of the testator in a suit to recover that part of the estate. (n)

An allegation that the defendant, being the person entitled to take out representation to the deceased, refuses to apply for it, and impedes the plaintiff in procuring a grant of it to any other person, is not a sufficient answer to a demurrer founded on the absence of such representative, (o) though it was said that it might be otherwise if the bill alleged a *lis pendens* in the ecclesiastical court. (p)

There has already been occasion to point out that in cases where the executor or administrator is required to be made a party, it is not sufficient that he is such by the appointment and authority of a foreign government; but he must obtain his right to represent the estate from the probate court in this country. (q)

\* It appears to be now settled, after some contrariety of decision on the subject, (r) that where there is no general personal representative, but a special representative limited to the subject of the suit has been appointed by the probate court, and the limited administrator is made a party to the cause, the estate of the deceased is properly represented in the suit.

(n) *Bond v. Graham*, 1 Hare, 482, 484. See, also, *Arthur v. Hughes*, 4 Beav. 506, and Lord Cottenham's judgment in *Penny v. Watts*, 2 Phill. C. C. 153, 154.

(o) *Penny v. Watts*, 2 Phill. C. C. 149.

(p) *Ib.*; *ante*, 498 *et seq.*

(q) *Ante*, 361 *et seq.* See, also, 1929. In *Anderson v. Caunter*, 2 My. & K. 763, A., one of the executors of the will of B., who died in India, proved the will, and possessed the testator's assets in India. The widow and executrix of A. proved her husband's will, and possessed his assets in India, and having afterwards come

to England, she was made a party to a suit for the administration of B.'s estate. And Sir J. Leach M.R. held that it was not necessary that an administrator of A.'s estate in England should be also a party to this suit. But see the observations of Lord Cottenham on this decision, 2 My. & Cr. 110. See, also, *Story's Conf. of Laws*, c. xiii. § 513, note (1), where it is said that *Anderson v. Caunter* seems not a sound authority. *Maclean v. Dawson*, 27 Beav. 21; *Flood v. Patterson*, 29 Beav. 295.

(r) See *ante*, 523, 524.

The general rule is, that, inasmuch as the executor or administrator is the trustee and proper representative of all persons interested in the personal estate, and has the duty cast on him of protecting it against improper demands, it is not necessary or proper to join either a pecuniary or a residuary legatee, or the next of kin, as a party to a bill against the executor or administrator for an account of the personal estate, however interested such persons may be to contest the demand which has occasioned the suit. (s) Special circumstances, however, have been permitted to justify the relaxation of this rule. (t)

Again, the established rule is, that, in ordinary cases, persons who have possessed themselves of the property of the deceased, or debtors to the estate generally, cannot be made parties to a bill against the executor. For regularly there can be no suit against the debtor but by the executor, who has the right both in law and in equity. If he even \* releases, and is solvent, neither a creditor nor a residuary legatee can bring any bill against that debtor. There must be collusion or insolvency, or some special case. The court will interfere, if there be such special case; as collusion or insolvency; and then the bill may be brought against both the debtor and the executor. (u) And the general principle on which a debtor to the estate cannot be made a defendant to a bill by a creditor or residuary legatee against the executor, unless collusion, insolvency, or some special case be shown, applies equally to the case of a creditor overpaid by the executor; that is, if there is no collusion or special case, if the executor is not insolvent, he stands the middle man, responsible for the property misapplied by paying a man as a creditor who was not a

(s) *Brown v. Dowthwaite*, 1 Madd. 446; *v. Birch*, 1 De G. & Sm. 376; [*Fisher v. Hubbell*, 7 Lansing, 481; S. C. 65 Barb. 74; S. C. 1 N. Y. Sup. Ct. 97.] As to whether a refusal by the executor to sue the debtor is sufficient, see the case last cited. The special circumstances which will authorize making the debtor a party are not confined to collusion or insolvency. 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 569; 1 De G. & Sm. 376; *Stainton v. The Carron Company*, 18 Beav. 146; *Saunders v. Druce*, 3 Drew. 140.

(t) *Lord Hertford v. Zichi*, 9 Beav. 11.

(u) *Newland v. Champion*, 1 Ves. sen. 105; *Utterson v. Mair*, 2 Ves. jr. 95; *Dorran v. Simpson*, 4 Ves. 651; *Troughton v. Binkes*, 6 Ves. 573; *Alsager v. Rowley*, 6 Ves. 748; *Beckley v. Dorrington*, cited by Lord Eldon, *Ib.* 749; *Benfield v. Solomons*, 9 Ves. 86; *Burroughs v. Elton*, 11 Ves. 29; *Consett v. Bell*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 569; *Lancaster v. Evors*, 4 Beav. 158; *Baddeley v. Curwen*, 2 Coll. 151; *Barker*



creditor, as in the other case for the property outstanding in a debtor. (x)

But this rule has been relaxed in the case of surviving partners of the deceased, whom it is allowable to make parties with the executor, in order, it is said, that the plaintiff may have an account of the personal estate entire. (y) Accordingly, in *Bowsher v. Watkins*, (z) it was held by Sir John Leach M. R. that residuary legatees might maintain a bill for an account against the executor and the surviving partner of the testator, although collusion between the executor and the surviving partner was neither charged \*nor proved. (a) But upon the examination of the authorities (b) it will be found that there is no instance of such a suit being maintained in the absence of special circumstances, and that collusion is clearly not the only ground on which such a bill can be supported. The cases seem to go to this extent, — that such a bill may be supported in all cases where the relation between the executors and the surviving partners is such as to present a substantial impediment to the prosecution by the executors of the rights of the parties interested in the estate against the surviving partners. (c)

It may be here observed, that although one of two executors or trustees may sue the other executor or trustee without making the *cestuis que trust* parties to the suit, yet where such *cestuis que trust* have participated in the breach of trust they are necessary parties. (d)

(x) 6 Ves. 748.

(y) 1 Ves. sen. 106, by Lord Hardwicke.

(z) 1 Russ. & My. 277.

(a) His honor, in the previous case of *Gedge v. Traill*, 1 Russ. & My. 281, note, overruled a demurrer to a creditor's bill, which had made the copartners of the deceased testator co-defendants with his executor, upon the ground that the retaining of assets by a stranger with consent of the executor, amounted to collusion. In *Davies v. Davies*, 2 Keen, 534, Lord Langdale M. R. said that the decision of *Bowsher v. Watkins* is far from establishing the general proposition, that in every case a bill may be filed against an executor and a surviving partner of the testator,

without charging and proving fraud or collusion. See, also, *Law v. Law*, 2 Coll. 41; *Cropper v. Knapman*, 2 Y. & Coll. 338.

(b) *Bowsher v. Watkins*, 1 Russ. & My. 277; *Gedge v. Traill*, 1 Russ. & My. 281; *Davies v. Davies*, 2 Keen, 534; *Law v. Law*, 2 Coll. 41; *Cropper v. Knapman*, 2 Y. & Coll. 338.

(c) *Travis v. Milne*, 9 Hare, 141, 150, by Turner V. C. In *Stainton v. The Carron Company*, 18 Beav. 146, Romilly M. R. approved of this statement of the general principle, and held that it did not apply to such a partnership as a joint stock company.

(d) *Jesse v. Bennett*, 6 De G., M. & G. 609.

The writ of *ne exeat regno* has been considered in the nature of equitable bail, (*e*) and it has been understood that a court of equity proceeds, in respect to it, by analogy to the proceedings at law in cases of legal bail. (*f*)

\* It has been said that the object of this writ is to obtain security from a person intending to leave the country, when the other party has not a legal remedy, and cannot hold him to bail. (*g*) But it is settled, that, though a plaintiff, swearing to the balance of an account, may have bail at law, yet the court of chancery, holding a concurrent jurisdiction upon the head of account, the plaintiff may also have the writ of *ne exeat regno*. And where a creditor files a bill for an account and administration of the assets, if there is a *clear* affidavit of assets received, the court of chancery will grant the writ. (*h*)

Generally speaking, the affidavit on which the application for a *ne exeat regno* is grounded must be as positive as to the equitable debt as an affidavit of a legal debt, to hold to bail; (*i*) but in the case of partners and executors, information and belief is held sufficient. (*j*) The affidavit ought to swear, or aver to the best of the knowledge and belief of the deponent, that assets have come to the hands of the executor or administrator; (*k*) and it should appear distinctly that he has a present intention to leave the country. (*l*)

In *Moore v. Meynell*, (*m*) Lord Cowper ordered a writ of *ne exeat regno* to issue against a married woman, the administratrix of a former husband, who had come to England to get in his property. And Lord Macclesfield afterwards refused to discharge this order. (*n*) And upon the authority \* of this case, Lord Hardwicke, in *Jerningham v. Glass*, (*o*) where a wife was executrix of

(*e*) *Haffey v. Haffey*, 14 Ves. 261.

(*f*) *Pannell v. Taylor*, 1 Turn. & R. 103. See *Jenkins v. Parkinson*, 2 My. & K. 5; *ante*, 895.

(*g*) *Swift v. Swift*, 1 Ball & Beat. 227.

(*h*) *Jones v. Alephsin*, 16 Ves. 471. But a residuary legatee cannot have a writ of *ne exeat regno* against a debtor of the testator, on the ground that he colludes with the executor. *Graves v. Griffith*, 1 Jac. & W. 646.

(*i*) 10 Ves. 164; *Amsink v. Barklay*, 8 Ves. 597.

(*j*) *Jackson v. Petrie*, 10 Ves. 164;

*Rico v. Gualtier*, 3 Atk. 501.

(*k*) *Anon.* 2 Ves. sen. 489. A present vested interest, though capable of being divested, is a sufficient interest to support a writ of *ne exeat regno*. *Howkins v. Howkins*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 75, 78.

(*l*) *Darley v. Nicholson*, 1 Dr. & W. 66.

(*m*) 1 Dick. 30.

(*n*) 3 Atk. 409, 410.

(*o*) 3 Atk. 409; *S. C. nomine Ternegan v. Glass*, Amb. 62; *S. C. nomine Jernegan v. Glass*, 1 Dick. 107.

a former husband, and her second husband was gone out of the kingdom, granted the writ against her alone. Again, in *Moore v. Hudson* (p) (July, 1821), Sir John Leach V. C. granted writs of *ne exeat regno* against husband and wife, executrix, the plaintiff undertaking not to serve more than one of the writs. But in *Pannell v. Tayler* (q) (February 1823), Lord Eldon, after great consideration, decided that a writ of *ne exeat regno* against a *feme covert* executrix or administratrix cannot be sustained; and the preceding cases must, therefore, it should appear, be regarded as overruled. (r)

In *Bunyan v. Mortimer*, (s) a bill was filed against a husband and wife in respect of a demand against the wife as executrix. The husband, who was a bankrupt, had appeared for himself and his wife, and had gone abroad, and an attachment had issued against him for want of an answer. And it was held by Sir J. Leach V. C. that such an attachment could not be granted against the wife, until an order had been obtained that she should answer separately, and that she must have notice of the motion for that order.

Although suits in equity are not within the words of the statute of limitations (21 Jac. 1, c. 16), yet they are within the spirit and meaning of it; and, therefore, upon all legal demands, the courts of equity are bound to yield obedience to its provisions. (t)

(p) Madd. & Geld. 218

(q) 1 Turn. & R. 96.

(r) It appears, from the decree in *Moore v. Meynel*, that the *feme covert* in that case had large separate property, and had executed bonds, &c. And Lord Eldon observed thereupon, that there may be a very great difference between the case of a married woman who has separate property and the case of a married woman who is administratrix, and as administratrix can have no separate property at all. 1 Turn. & R. 103.

(s) Madd. & Geld. 278.

(t) *Hovenden v. Annealey*, 2 Sch. & Lef. 630, 631; *Foley v. Hill*, 1 Phill. C. C. 399; *Burdeck v. Garrick*, L. R. 5 Ch. App. 234, 240; [*McCartee v. Camel*, 1 Barb. Ch. 455. In *Sugar River Bank*

*v. Fairbank*, 49 N. H. 139, 140, *Bellows C. J.* said: "As a general rule, courts of equity are bound by a statute of limitations equally with courts of law, and they cannot disregard the plain requirements of such statute; for that would be to repeal it. Even when the statute in terms applies only to actions at law, which are enumerated, courts of equity act in analogy to it, and refuse to grant relief in cases coming within its provisions. In the case of executors and administrators, the limitations imposed by statutes are more stringently enforced than those of the general statute of limitations, both at law and equity; and it has been held that the omission to embody in the former statute the exceptions contained in the latter, indicates a purpose to

\* In *Webster v. Webster*, (*u*) the testator died in 1786, but the will was not proved by the executor until 1802. Nevertheless, on a bill filed by the creditor against the executor in 1803, a plea of the statute of limitations was allowed, because the bill alleged that the defendant had possessed himself of the personal estate previously to 1792, and might, therefore, have been sued as an executor *de son tort*.

And it appears to be now settled, that if time has once begun

make the bar of suits against executors and administrators absolute. *Atwood v. R. I. Agricultural Bank*, 2 R. I. 191. This limitation of suits against executors and administrators has been stringently enforced in this state, both at law and in equity. *Judge of Probate v. Brooks*, 5 N. H. 82; *Ticknor v. Harris*, 14 N. H. 272; *Cutter v. Emery*, 37 N. H. 567; *Walker v. Cheever*, 39 N. H. 420. The latter was a suit in equity against executors, and one ground of defence was, that the claim was not exhibited to the executors within two years from the grant of administration, nor the suit brought within three years; and the suit was held to be barred upon both grounds, and no question was made on account of its being a suit in equity. In *Atwood v. R. I. Agricultural Bank*, 2 R. I. 191, under a law much like our own, it was decided that the statute limiting suits against executors and administrators to three years, was binding upon courts of equity, as well as upon courts of law. In *Pratt v. Northam*, 5 Mason, 95, the same doctrine was held by Story J. He says, 'that the statute of limitations as to executors and administrators is not created for their own security and benefit, but for the security and benefit of the estates which they represent.' 'It is a wholesome provision, designed to produce a speedy settlement of estates, and the repose of titles derived under persons who are dead. If this statute could be avoided by any fraud (and on that point I give no opinion), it must be the fraud of the executors or administrators themselves, and not of third persons with whom they have no connection or

privity.'" See *Wells v. Child*, 12 Allen, 333; *Bacon v. Pomeroy*, 104 Mass. 577. As to whether a court of equity will, after six years' acquiescence, decree an account between a surviving partner and the estate of a deceased partner, see *Barber v. Barber*, 18 Ves. 286, the authority of which, however, is much shaken by the judgment of Lord Brougham in *Robinson v. Alexander*, 8 Bligh N. S. 375. In *Tatam v. Williams*, 3 Hare, 347, a bill by surviving partners against the executors of a partner, who died thirteen years before the institution of the suit, for an account of his partnership dealings and transactions, charging that the deceased partner was indebted to the firm at the time of his death, was dismissed by Wigram V. C. with costs, on the ground of lapse of time. Again, in *Baker v. Read*, 18 Beav. 398, where a bill had been filed after seventeen years to set aside a purchase of the testator's estate by his executor at an undervalue, Romilly M. R. refused relief, although his honor added that if the transaction had been fresh, he should have set it aside without a moment's hesitation. See, further, as to laches and lapse of time being a bar in equity, *Portlock v. Gardner*, 1 Hare, 594; *Browne v. Cross*, 14 Beav. 105; *Sibbering v. Balcarras*, 3 De G. & Sm. 735; *Wright v. Vanderplank*, 2 Kay & J. 1; *Aspland v. Watta*, 20 Beav. 474; *Mills v. Drewitt*, 20 Beav. 632; *Hartwell v. Colvin*, 16 Beav. 140; *Downes v. Bullock*, 25 Beav. 54; 9 H. L. Cas. 1, S. C. conf.; *Flood v. Patteson*, 29 Beav. 293.

(*u*) 10 Ves. 93.

to run against a debt in the debtor's lifetime, it does not afterwards cease to run during the period which may elapse between his death and the time at which a personal representative is constituted to him. The rule in this respect appears to be the same in equity (*x*) as at law. (*y*)

In cases of fraud or mistake, courts of equity hold that the statute runs from the discovery; because the laches of the plaintiff commences from that date. (*z*)

\* It was held by Sir Anthony Hart V. C. in *Sterndale v. Hankinson*, (*a*) that a bill which had been filed by one creditor on behalf of himself and all other creditors, prevented the statute of limitations (21 Jac. 1) from being a bar to a claim of another creditor, who had come in under the decree. And his honor stated that he entertained no doubt that every creditor had, after the filing of the bill, an inchoate interest in the suit to the extent of its being considered as a demand, and to prevent its being shut out because the plaintiff had not obtained a decree within the six years. (*b*) But in *Berrington v. Evans* (*c*) (a case which rose after the statute 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 27, s. 40, hereinafter mentioned, came into operation), where Berrington, a judgment creditor, had allowed twenty years to elapse without taking steps to recover his debt, and then ascertained that during the twenty years a suit had been instituted by a creditor named Kemp, for the benefit of the specialty creditors of his debtor, and that under a decree in the suit they had received part payment of their debts, and that there was money in court available for the payment of the remainder; Lord Abinger C. B. held that such creditor was barred by the statute from proving his debt before the master, and receiving payment ratably with the other creditors. And his lordship observed, that if he were obliged to consider the effect of the decision of *Sterndale v. Hankinson* as establishing a general rule, under all circumstances, that the filing a

(*x*) *Freak v. Craneheldt*, 3 My. & Cr. 499.

(*y*) *Ante*, 1951, and note (*p*).

(*z*) *Brooksbank v. Smith*, 2 Y. & Coll. 58. An executor cannot protect himself by the statute of limitations from payment of a debt due from himself to his testator by deferring proof of the will. The probate will be considered to have

relation to the testator's death, and the debt will be treated as assets in the executor's hands at that time. *Ingle v. Richards*, 28 Beav. 366; *ante*, 293.

(*a*) 1 Sim. 393.

(*b*) See, also, *Tollner v. Marriott*, 4 Sim. 19; *Watson v. Birch*, 15 Sim. 523.

(*c*) 1 Y. & Coll. 434.

bill by one creditor of A. on behalf of himself and all others, lets in the claims of all the other creditors, it was clear that the new statute would have no \*application to the present case, because this would then be the suit of Kemp as well as Berrington, and the bill having been filed within the twenty years, Kemp's interest could not be affected by the new statute; but the learned judge added, that he could not conceive that the case went the length of deciding that time could, under no circumstances, be a bar in such a suit, either on the statute analogy, or any other. (d)

It seems to have been held that notice in a newspaper by a personal representative, that he will pay all debts justly due from his testator, will prevent a debt from being barred by the statute of limitations. (e) But a debt is not taken out of the statute by an advertisement published by the administrator, requesting all persons having claims on the estate to send in statements of their demand prior to their being laid before A. B., by whom the persons claiming to be creditors are to submit to be examined touching the same, if he shall see occasion in order to their being approved and paid, or rejected, if such latter course be deemed expedient. (f)

In *Williamson v. Naylor*, (g) a testator by his will declared that one fifth of the residue of his personal estate should be divided amongst certain of his creditors named in a schedule to his will. The schedule contained both the names of the creditors and the debts due to them respectively. And Alderson B. held that the direction so given for payment of these debts prevented the operation of the statute of limitations; and that where a testator revives debts which have been barred by the statute, he may appropriate a specific fund for their payment, \*and if the fund is not sufficient, the creditors must take ratably. (h)

In *Barton v. Tattersall*, (i) it was held by Sir John Leach,

(d) See, also, *Tatam v. Williams*, 3 Hare, 347.

(f) 1 Russ. & My. 255; 4 Cl. & Fin. 382.

(e) *Scott v. Jones*, 1 Russ. & My. 255. But see stat. 9 Geo. 4, c. 14; *ante*, 1947.

(g) 3 Y. & Coll. 208.

It is difficult to reconcile this decision with the principle laid down in *Tanner v. Smart*, 6 B. & C. 603, and the cases in accordance with it decided upon the construction of this statute.

(h) See, also, *Rose v. Gould*, 15 Beav. 189.

(i) 1 Russ. & My. 237; recognized by Lord Cottenham in *Ward v. Painter*, 5 My. & Cr. 298.

on a bill filed to administer the assets of a person who had taken the benefit of the insolvent acts, that the rights of his creditors, as to debts scheduled under the insolvency, were not affected by the statute of limitations; on the ground that the liability arose in respect, not of a promise, but of a lien created by the acts.

After the death of one of two partners, the survivor cannot set up the statute as a bar to a demand against the assets of the deceased. (*k*)

The question as to the parties who have a right to insist on the statute, in bar of the demand, in case the executor declines so to do, has been already discussed. (*l*)

In *Sirdefield v. Price*, (*m*) on a bill by a creditor against an executor, for payment of his demand, and an account of the testator's estate, the court, in consequence of some doubt respecting the validity of the debt, retained the bill for a year, with liberty for the plaintiff to bring an action. And the statute of limitations having taken effect between the filing of the bill and the decree, the court restrained the defendant from insisting at law on the benefit of that statute.

It must be observed that, generally speaking, the statute of limitations (21 Jac. 1, c. 16) does not run against a \* trust. (*n*)

(*k*) *Winter v. Innes*, 4 My. & Cr. 101. It may be questioned whether the representatives of the deceased partner can set up the statute against a claim by a creditor of the firm, whilst the surviving partner continues liable, and the estate of the deceased partner continues liable to contribution at the suit of the surviving partner. *Ib.*; *Braithwaite v. Britain*, 1 Keen, 206. The mere circumstance that the partnership accounts are unsettled does not disentitle the representatives of the deceased partner from the protection of the statute. *Way v. Bassett*, 5 Hare, 68. See, also, *Brown v. Gordon*, 16 Beav. 302; *ante*, 1949.

(*l*) *Ante*, 1949, 1950. [In *Partridge v. Mitchell*, 3 Edw. Ch. 180, it was held to be competent for any party in interest to set up the statute of limitations in bar of a claim against the estate of a person de-

ceased, without the concurrence of the administrator.]

(*m*) 2 Y. & Jerv. 73.

(*n*) *Hollis's case*, 2 Ventr. 345; *Hargreaves v. Michell*, 6 Madd. 326; *Barker v. Martin*, 5 Sim. 380; *Wedderburn v. Wedderburn*, 2 Keen, 722; 4 My. & Cr. 41; *Dickenson v. Lord Holland*, 2 Beav. 130; *Obee v. Bishop*, 1 De G., F. & J. 137; *Brittlebank v. Goodwin*, L. R. 5 Eq. Ca. 545; *Woodhouse v. Woodhouse*, L. R. 8 Eq. Ca. 514. [See *Yingling v. Hesson*, 16 Md. 112. Executors and administrators are express trustees in whose favor the statutes of limitation do not run to bar the claims of legatees or distributees. *Lafferty v. Turley*, 3 Sneed, 157; *Amos v. Campbell*, 9 Florida, 187; *Knight v. Brawner*, 14 Md. 1; *Smith v. Smith*, 7 Md. 55; *Picot v. Bates*, 39 Missou. 292; *Bailey v. Shannonhouse*, 1 Dev. Eq. 416; *Wren v. Gayden*, 2 Miss. 365.]

Accordingly, a trust or charge created by will upon the *real* estate for the payment of debts, prevents the statute from running against such debts as were not barred in the testator's lifetime, (*o*) though such a trust does not revive a debt on which the statute had taken effect before the will came into operation, viz, before the testator's death. (*p*) But a trust or charge by will upon the *personal* estate does not at all prevent the operation of the statute. For the law vests the personal estate of the deceased in his executors or administrators, as a fund for the payment of his debts, and he cannot, by his will, create a special trust for that purpose. Consequently, such a trust has no legal operation. (*q*) Where a testator directed his debts to be paid out of his real and personal estate, and he afterwards provided that if his personal estate should fall short in paying his debts, then he empowered his executors to enter into the receipts of the rents of his freehold, until the same should be wholly paid off; it was held that, notwithstanding the personal estate was sufficient for payment of the debts, a trust had been created for payment of the debts out of his realty, so as to prevent the operation of the statute; and that the real estate remained liable to pay a simple contract debt which had been left unpaid after distribution of the residuary personal estate. (*r*)

In a case where the statute was pleaded in bar to a legacy \*demanded, due twenty years before, Lord Nottingham held that a legacy was not barred by the statute, nor ever had been so. (*s*) But though before the statute of 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 27 (hereafter

(*o*) *Burke v. Jones*, 2 Ves. & B. 275; *Parker v. Ash*, 1 Vern. 257; [*Wood v. Hughes v. Wynne*, 1 Turn. & R. 307; *Ricker*, 1 Paige, 616; *Doebler v. Snavelly*, *Hargreaves v. Michell*, 6 Madd. 326; 5 Watts, 225; *Irby v. McCrea*, 4 Desaus. 422; *Kent v. Dunham*, 106 Mass. 586, 591; *Brooks v. Lynde*, 7 Allen, 64, 66; *Pettingill v. Pettingill*, 60 Maine, 423, 424.]

(*p*) 2 Ves. & B. 275; 6 Madd. 326; *Lafferty v. Turley*, 3 Sneed, 157; *Thompson v. M'Gaw*, 5 Watts, 161; *Perkins v. O'Connor v. Haslem*, 5 H. L. Cas. 170.

(*q*) *Scott v. Jones*, 4 Cl. & Fin. 382, in which case the house of lords affirmed the judgment of Sir John Leach, and reversed that of Lord Brougham, 1 Russ. & My. 255. See, also, accord. *Freak v. Craneheldt*, 3 My. & Cr. 499; *Evans v. Tweedy*, 1 Beav. 55.

(*r*) *Crallan v. Oulton*, 3 Beav. 1; *Moore v. Petchell*, 22 Beav. 172.

(*s*) *Anon.* 2 Freem. 22, pl. 20. See, also,

*Gartnell*, 4 Harr. (Del.) 270; *Genl. Sts. Mass. c. 97, § 22*, expressly excludes the bar of the statute. See *Souzer v. De Meyer*, 2 Paige, 574; *Smith v. Remington*, 42 Barb. 75; *McCartee v. Camel*, 1 Barb. Ch. 455, 465; *Norris's Appeal*, 71 Penn. St. 106, 120, 121; *Cartwright v. Buell*, 9 Vt. 41.]



mentioned) no statute could be pleaded to a legacy, yet presumption of payment, from permitting the assets to be distributed without claiming the legacy, was a good ground of defence by way of answer. (t) It must, however, be borne in mind, that although, generally speaking, a long lapse of time might lead to the presumption of payment of legacies, yet that presumption, as the like presumption in the case of specialty debts, was liable to be rebutted by circumstances. (u)

By stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 27, s. 40, it is enacted, that "after the 31st of December, 1833, no action or suit, or *other proceeding*, shall be brought to recover any sum of money secured by any mortgage, judgment, (x) or lien, or otherwise charged upon or payable out of any land or rent, at law or in equity, or any legacy, (y) but within twenty \* years next after a pres-

(t) *Higgins v. Crawford*, 2 Ves. jr. 572; 23; [*Estate of Brown*, 8 Phil. (Penn.) *Pickering v. Stamford*, Ib. 582; *Jones v.* 197.]

*Turberville*, Ib. 11; *Brown v. Claxton*, 8 Sim. 225; *Campbell v. Graham*, 1 Russ.

(x) See *Watson v. Birch*, 15 Sim. 523.

& My. 453; S. C. in Dom. Proc. 8 Bligh, 622; *Baldwin v. Peach*, 1 Y. & Coll. 453. See *Prior v. Horniblow*, 2 Y. & Coll. 200; *Grenfell v. Girdlestone*, Ib. 662; [*Andrews v. Sparhawk*, 13 Pick. 393; *Carr v. Chapman*, 5 Leigh, 164; *Hayes v. Goode*, 7 Leigh, 452; *Hudson v. Hudson*, 3 Rand. 117; *Sasscer v. Young*, 6 Gill & J. 243; *Ivy v. Rogers*, 1 Dev. Ch. 58; *Sager v. Warley*, Rice Ch. 26; *Skinner v. Skinner*, 1 J. J. Marsh. 594. An account of administration demanded after a great lapse of time will be denied. *Parkes v. Rucker*, 5 Leigh, 149; *Rayner v. Pearsall*, 3 John. Ch. 18; *Mooers v. White*, 6 John. Ch. 360; *Carr v. Chapman*, 5 Leigh, 164; *Hudson v. Hudson*, 3 Rand. 117; *Ives v. Sumner*, 1 Dev. Eq. 338; *Davis v. Yerby*, 1 Sm. & M. Ch. 508; *Lupton v. Janney*, 13 Peters, 381; *Hays v. Goode*, 7 Leigh, 452. After a long lapse of time, the debts of an estate may be presumed to be satisfied. *Coleman v. Lane*, 26 Geo. 515; *Longworthy v. Baker*, 23 Ill. 484; *Rosenthal v. Renick*, 44 Ill. 202; *Donaldson v. Raborg*, 28 Md. 34; *Buie v. Buie*, 2 Ired. (Law) 87.]

(y) This statute applies to legacies payable out of personal estate as well as to legacies charged on real estate. *Sheppard v. Duke*, 9 Sim. 567; *Bullock v. Downes*, 9 H. L. Cas. 1, 14. A residue bequeathed by will is clearly within the statute. *Prior v. Horniblow*, 2 Y. & Coll. 200; *Christian v. Devereux*, 12 Sim. 264; *Portlock v. Gardner*, 1 Hare, 594, 604; *Adams v. Barry*, 2 Coll. 285, 290, 293. But where more than twenty years after the death of the testator, the representative of one of his executors, and the residuary legatee under his will, filed a bill against the representative of the co-executor, to recover residuary assets of the testator, alleged to have been possessed by the co-executor, it was held that the plaintiffs, though barred by the statute as to assets possessed by the executor more than twenty years before the filing of the bill, were not so barred as to assets possessed by him since that time. *Adams v. Barry*, 2 Coll. 290. See, also, *Bright v. Larcher*, 37 Beav. 130; 4 De G. & J. 608, S. C. Where the right to sue for the legacy as such was barred by the statute, but the executor, who had possessed assets to pay it, died leaving it unpaid, and having charged his estate with his debts, it was

(u) *Ravenscroft v. Frisby*, 1 Coll. 16,

[2080]

ent right to receive the same shall have accrued to some person capable of giving a discharge for or release of the same, unless in the mean time some part of the principal money, or some interest thereon, shall have been paid, or some acknowledgment (z) of the right thereto shall have been given in writing signed by the person by whom the same shall be payable, or his agent, to the person entitled thereto or his agent; and in such case no such action or suit or proceeding shall be brought but within twenty years after such payment or acknowledgment, or the last of such payments or acknowledgments, if more than one was given." (a)

By sect. 42, "After the said 31st of December, 1838, no arrears of rent or of interest, in respect of any sum of money charged upon or payable out of any land or rent, *or in respect of any legacy*, (b) or any damages in respect of such arrears of rent or interest, shall be recovered by any distress, action, or suit, but within six years next after the same respectively shall have become due, or next after an acknowledgment (c) of the same in writing shall have been given to the person entitled thereto, or his agent, signed by the person by whom the same was payable, or his agent. Provided, nevertheless, that where any prior mortgagee or other incumbrancer shall have been in possession of any land, or in the receipt of the profits thereof, within one year next \* before an action or suit shall be brought by any person entitled to a subsequent mortgage or other incumbrance on the same land, the person entitled to such subsequent mortgage or incumbrance may recover in such action or suit the arrears of interest which shall have become due during the whole time that such prior mortgagee or incumbrancer was in such possession or receipt as aforesaid, although such time may have exceeded the said term of six years."

In the construction of this statute it has been held that a suit

held that the legacy could not be claimed under the charge of debts. *Piggott v. Jefferson*, 12 Sim. 26.

(z) See *Holland v. Clark*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 151, as to what is a sufficient acknowledgment. See, also, *St. John v. Boughton*, 9 Sim. 219.

(a) By stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 13,

this section is extended to cases of claims to the estates of intestates.

(b) An annuity given by a will, forming no charge upon land, but being personal only, is not within this enactment. *Roch v. Callen*, 6 Hare, 531; *Re Ashwell's Will*, Johns. 112.

(c) See note (z), *supra*.

to make an executor account for a sum of money which had been bequeathed to him by his testator upon certain trusts, and which had been severed by the executor from the testator's personal estate, and the interest of which had, for a time, been applied upon the trusts of the will, so that the fund had ceased to bear the character of a legacy, and had assumed that of a trust fund, must be considered not as a suit for a legacy, but as a suit to compel a party to account for a breach of trust; and therefore that is not within the terms of the act. And in *Watson v. Saul*, (*d*) Wood V. C. observed that the distinction between mere charges and express trusts pointed out by Lord Eldon in *King v. Denison*, (*e*) was the foundation upon which the 40th section rests, and that the provisions of that section were never intended to apply to cases of express trusts. (*f*)

\* It has been shown, in a previous part of this work, (*g*) under what circumstances an executor may retain a legacy, by way of set-off against a debt due from the legatee to the testator. But the executor cannot set off, against a demand upon him as executor, a debt due to him individually. (*h*)

(*d*) 1 Giff. 188, 196.

(*e*) 1 Ves. & B. 260.

(*f*) *Phillipo v. Munnings*, 2 My. & Cr. 309. See, also, accord. *Dinsdale v. Duding*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 265; *Commissioners of Charitable Donations v. Wybrants*, 2 Jones & L. 182, 196, per Sugden C. of Ireland; *Jacquet v. Jacquet*, 27 Beav. 332; *Snow v. Booth*, 2 K. & J. 132; 8 De G., M. & G. 69, S. C.; *Burrows v. Gore*, 6 H. L. Cas. 907; *Dickinson v. Teasdale*, 31 Beav. 511; 1 De G., J. & Sm. 52; *S. C. Proud v. Proud*, 32 Beav. 234. See, further, as to the statute running against trusts, *Ravenscroft v. Frisby*, 1 Coll. 16; *St. John v. Boughton*, 9 Sim. 219. See, also, *Roch v. Callen*, 6 Hare, 531, 536; *Young v. Lord Waterpark*, 13 Sim. 199, 204; *Gough v. Bult*, 16 Sim. 323; *Playfair v. Cooper*, 17 Beav. 187; *Lord Brougham v. Lord William Poulett*, 19 Beav. 119, 134; *Dix v. Burford*, 19 Beav. 409, 412. See, likewise, *Francis v. Grover*, 5 Hare, 39; *Hughes v. Williams*,

3 Mac. & G. 683; *Hunter v. Nockolds*, 1 Mac. & G. 640; *Cox v. Dolman*, 2 De G., M. & G. 592; *Snow v. Booth*, 2 K. & J. 132; 8 De G., M. & G. 69, S. C.; *Davenport v. Stafford*, 14 Beav. 319, 331; *Downes v. Bullock*, 25 Beav. 54; 9 H. L. Cas. 1; *S. C. Smith v. Acton*, 26 Beav. 210; *Lewis v. Duncombe*, 28 Beav. 175; *Round v. Bell*, 30 Beav. 121; *Tyson v. Jackson*, 30 Beav. 384; *Hodgson v. Bibby*, 32 Beav. 221; *Mason v. Broadbent*, 33 Beav. 296; *Edmunds v. Waugh*, L. R. 1 Eq. 418; *Gyles v. Gyles*, Cas. temp. Napier, 257; *Butler v. Carter*, L. R. 5 Eq. Ca. 276. A trust created by a testator of his real estate for payment of his debts does not remove from a creditor the consequences arising from his negligence or acquiescence, whether expressed or implied. *Harcourt v. White*, 28 Beav. 303, 309.

(*g*) *Ante*, 1304 *et seq.* See, also, *Richards v. Richards*, 9 Price, 219.

(*h*) *Whitaker v. Rush*, Ambl. 407; *Medlicot v. Bowes*, 1 Ves. sen. 208; *Gale*

There has also already been occasion to show under what circumstances the court of chancery will restrain an *insolvent* or *bankrupt* executor, and appoint a receiver. (i) And it is now proposed to consider further, in what other cases the court will exercise this jurisdiction over executors and administrators.

When a receiver shall be appointed:

If, in the case of an executor or administrator, any misconduct, waste, or improper disposition of the assets is shown, the court will instantly interfere and appoint a receiver. (k) So the bankruptcy of a sole executor and trustee is a ground for such an appointment. (l) But the administration \*is not to be taken from the executor upon slight grounds. (m)

In *Faith v. Dunbar*, (n) the executor being out of the jurisdiction, a receiver was appointed under stat. 36 Geo. 3, c. 90, and administration was afterwards taken out. Under these circumstances Lord Eldon referred it to the master to reconsider the appointment of receiver, regard being had to the administration granted.

The subject of the appointment of a receiver, during a litigation in the ecclesiastical court for probate or administration, has been already considered, (o) and mention made of the provisions

*v. Luttrell*, 1 Y. & Jerv. 180; *ante*, 1876, 1952. But in — *v. Wood*, 2 P. Wms. 131, money lent and goods delivered by the executor to the legatee were held to be in part payment, and the court said that the executor, if sued in equity for the legacy, might have insisted that the legatee had received so much of it by money and goods.

(i) *Ante*, 236; [*Elmendorf v. Lansing*, 4 John. Ch. 562.]

(k) *Anon.* 12 Ves. 5, by Sir Wm. Grant; *Middleton v. Dodswell*, 13 Ves. 268. See, also, *Havers v. Havers*, *Barnard. Chanc.* 24; *Richards v. Perkins*, 3 Y. & Coll. 299; [*Boyd v. Murray*, 3 John. Ch. 48; *Stairley v. Rabe*, 1 McMullan Ch. 22; *Jenkins v. Jenkins*, 1 Paige, 243; *Edmonds v. Crenshaw*, 1 Harper Ch. 224. But not on account of a mere misunderstanding between executors, though one of them is

a man of limited means. *Fairbairn v. Fisher*, 4 Jones (N. Car.) Eq. 390.]

(l) *Steele v. Cobham*, L. R. 1 Ch. App. 525. The fact of the assignees not being before the court was held not a sufficient reason for refusing to appoint a receiver.

(m) 13 Ves. 268. See *Smith v. Smith*, 2 Y. & Coll. 353; *Whitworth v. Whydon*, 2 Mac. & G. 52. [It has been held that a court of equity has no power to remove or discharge one executor and appoint another. *Hargood v. Wells*, 1 Hill Ch. 59; *Galluchat*, *ex parte*, 1 Hill Ch. 148.]

(n) *Cooper*, 200. [So a court of equity may appoint a receiver, where an executor departs with a purpose of remaining without the state, leaving the estate and those entitled to it within the state. *Galluchat*, *ex parte*, 2 Hill Ch. 148.]

(o) *Ante*, 499–502.

of the probate act, relative to the appointment of receivers of real estate *pendente lite*. (*p*)

The court has no jurisdiction to order, in a summary way, the executors of a deceased receiver to bring in and pass his testator's accounts, and pay the balance to be found due out of the assets. (*q*)

The court will also appoint a proper person to protect a testator's estate where the circumstances require it, until a legal personal representative is appointed; but a bill to protect and also to administer the estate is irregular. (*r*)

In a suit against an executor or administrator, other than a suit for a general administration of the assets, the liability to costs will, generally speaking, be governed by the ordinary rule, which throws them on the unsuccessful party. (*r*<sup>1</sup>) Accordingly, if an executor or administrator is sued in equity \* by a creditor for a debt of the deceased, and the creditor succeeds in establishing his demand, the court will direct the payment of the amount due to the creditor, together with his costs, out of the assets. (*s*) The executor, however, will not be decreed to pay the costs, if the assets are insufficient to pay both debts and costs. (*t*)

The court makes no order, in a suit of this kind, with regard to the payment of the costs of the personal representative, it being supposed that he may reimburse himself out of the assets; so that if there be no further fund out of which he may reimburse himself, the costs must come out of his own pocket. And even if it should appear, upon taking the accounts, that there is no such fund, still the court will not give any directions with regard to his costs. (*u*)

(*p*) *Ante*, 497.

(*q*) *Jenkins v. Briant*, 7 Sim. 171. The proper course, in such a case, if the balance is not ascertained so that the recognizances may be put in suit, is to file a bill against the executor for an account. But this course may be avoided, if the executor will consent to an order to pass the receiver's accounts and to pay the balance. 2 Dan. Pr. 1624, 2d ed.

(*r*) *Overington v. Ward*, 34 Beav. 175.

(*r*<sup>1</sup>) [See *ante*, 1895, note (*f*<sup>1</sup>), 1978; *Brigham v. The Executors*, 15 Vt. 785.]

(*s*) 2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1422; *Lyse v. Kingdom*, 1 Coll. 184.

(*t*) 2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1422, note (7); *Lyse v. Kingdom*, 1 Coll. 184. The rule at law is different; for whenever an action is brought against an executor for a debt of the testator, and he makes an unsuccessful defence, there shall be a judgment against him for the costs of the plaintiff *de bonis testatoris, et si non, de bonis propriis*. See *ante*, 1974.

(*u*) 2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1422. "It is a settled rule," said Lord Redesdale,

But where a suit is instituted, either by creditors or residuary legatees, for a general administration of assets, so that the whole estate of the deceased is necessarily taken from the hands of the personal representative, and distributed under the direction of the court, his costs of suit, as between attorney and client, are, generally speaking, provided for; and even where the assets are insufficient to pay the creditors of the deceased, these costs continue the first charge on the estate. (x)

Costs in an administration suit:

of the executor, &c. out of the fund:

\* But this rule is by no means invariable. For if the suit was occasioned by the ignorance or unreasonable caution, (y) or by the misbehavior or the negligence (z) of the executor or administrator, his costs of the suit, (a) or of so much of the suit as was occasioned by such miscarriage, will not be allowed; (b) whilst in cases marked by fraud, evasion, neglect of duty, the court will not merely refuse to allow the executor

when the executor, &c. shall be refused his costs:

in *Adair v. Shaw*, 1 Sch. & Lef. 280, "that the executors of an insolvent shall not have costs. To allow them would be productive of the worst consequences. They need not have administered." But this observation does not apply to the costs of executors who are the defendants in administration suits. See *infra*, and *post*, 2036.

(x) *Tipping v. Power*, 1 Hare, 405, 411; *Gaunt v. Taylor*, 2 Hare, 413; *ante*, 988, 989; *Jackson v. Woolley*, 12 Sim. 12; *Ottley v. Gilby*, 8 Beav. 602; *Tanner v. Dancy*, 9 Beav. 339; [2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1423.] So where, on a bill filed by a simple contract creditor, the only specialty creditor was restrained by injunction from proceeding in his action at law, and the assets proved insufficient to pay him, the executor was allowed his costs out of them. *Young v. Everest*, 1 Russ. & My. 426. So the representative of a defaulting executor, fairly accounting, is entitled to deduct his costs of suit out of the assets, though they be insufficient to repair the breach of trust. *Haldenby v. Spofforth*, 9 Beav. 195. If after the suit is instituted the executor or administrator becomes bankrupt or insol-

vent, and is indebted to the estate of the deceased, the costs of the executor or administrator incurred before his bankruptcy or insolvency will be set off against his debt, but his subsequent costs, if properly incurred, will be allowed out of the estate. *Samuel v. Jones*, 2 Hare, 246. See, also, *Cotton v. Clark*, 16 Beav. 134.

(y) *Knight v. Martin*, 1 Russ. & My. 70; *Lyse v. Kingdom*, 1 Coll. 184; [*Colson v. Martin*, Phill. (N. Car.) 125.]

(z) *O'Callaghan v. Cooper*, 5 Ves. 117.

(a) Nor will the costs of his assignees, if he has become bankrupt, and they are made defendants. *Massey v. Moss*, 1 Hare, 319.

(b) *Heighington v. Grant*, 1 Phill. C. C. 600; *Bailey v. Gould*, 4 Y. & Coll. 221; *Hewett v. Foster*, 7 Beav. 348; *Noble v. Brett*, 26 Beav. 233; *Beer v. Tapp*, 10 W. R. 277; *Graham v. Wickham*, 34 L. J. N. S. Ch. 220; [*Post v. Stevens*, 13 N. J. Eq. 293; *post*, 2039, note (n).] An executor improperly denying assets may be postponed to the debt and costs of the creditor. *Lodge v. Pritchard*, 4 Giff. 294.

his costs out of the assets, but will order him to pay the costs of the suit, or (as in the former case) of so much of the suit as is attributable to the breach of duty on his part. (c)

\* After the costs of the executor or administrator are satisfied, the next claim on the fund arising from the personal estate is that of the plaintiff in the suit for his costs incurred in it. (d) Where, indeed, the plaintiff is a sim-

(c) *Heighington v. Grant*, 1 Phill. C. 600; *Hewett v. Foster*, 7 Beav. 348; *Hide v. Haywood*, 2 Atk. 126. See, also, *Fell v. Lutridge*, Barnard. Chanc. 322; *Avery v. Osborne*, Ib. 352; *Brown v. How*, Ib. 358; *Vaughan v. Thurston*, Colles, 175; *Bennett v. Atkins*, 1 Y. & Coll. 247; *Baker v. Carter*, Ib. 250; *Tower v. Thompson*, 7 Sim. 145; *Western v. Chapman*, 1 Coll. 181; *Tickner v. Smith*, 3 Sm. & G. 42; *Boynnton v. Richardson*, 31 Beav. 340; *Beames on Costs*, 91; [2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1418, 1419; *Reynolds v. Carter*, 32 Ala. 444.] It is not the duty or the practice of the court to visit trustees with any penalties in the shape of costs, except when they act from interested motives, or wantonly and intentionally conduct themselves in a vexatious and oppressive manner. *Noble v. Meymott*, 14 Beav. 471, 480, by Romilly M. R.; [*Keeler v. Keeler*, 18 N. J. Eq. 267.] So the mere fact that an executor neglected to render accounts, when asked, is not of itself sufficient to make him liable to the costs of a suit for administering the estate. *White v. Jackson*, 15 Beav. 191. But see *Kemp v. Burn*, 4 Giff. 348; *Springett v. Dashwood*, 2 Giff. 521; *Wroe v. Seed*, 4 Giff. 425. [Where, upon final settlement of an estate, a contest arises between the administrator and distributees, as to whether a particular fund is assets of the estate, or belongs to the administrator individually, and a decision is made in favor of the distributees, the administrator is personally liable for the costs of the proceeding. *Jones v. Dyer*, 16 Ala. 221. See *Hartzell v. Brown*,

5 Binney, 138; *Isenhardt v. Brown*, 2 Edw. Ch. 341. But if the distributees except to the administrator's account, and seek to charge him beyond the amount with which the administrator has debited himself, but fail to produce evidence in support of the exception, it is proper to charge them with the costs consequent thereon. *Jones v. Dyer*, 16 Ala. 221.] As to whether, when an executor is directed to pay interest, he must also pay costs, see *Seers v. Hind*, 1 Ves. jr. 294; *Moseley v. Ward*, 11 Ves. 581; *Ashburnham v. Thompson*, 13 Ves. 402; *Tebbs v. Carpenter*, 1 Madd. 308; *Newton v. Bennet*, 1 Bro. C. C. 362; *Raphael v. Boehm*, 11 Ves. 92, 407, 590; *Eglin v. Sanderson*, 3 Giff. 434, 440; *Walrond v. Walrond*, 29 Beav. 586; *Beames on Costs*, 153. [Though the general rule is that executors must pay costs when they pay interest, because they are in default, yet, where the devisee, or *cestui que trust*, demands more than he is entitled to receive, and the executor properly submits to the direction of the court, he will not be compelled to pay costs. *Duncomb v. Duncomb*, 1 Johns. Ch. 508.]

(d) *Hearn v. Wells*, 1 Coll. 323. But the plaintiff shall not be allowed the costs where the litigation was useless. *Otley v. Gilby*, 8 Beav. 602. So where a simple contract creditor, after obtaining an administration order, had notice that the estate was insufficient to pay the specialty debts and costs of the administratrix, his costs of prosecuting the suit after notice were disallowed. *Sullivan v. Bevan*, 20 Beav. 399. See, also, *Thompson v. Clive*, 11 Beav. 475.

ple contract creditor, and it turns out that the estate is not sufficient for the payment of specialty debts, it seems to have been once considered, that the plaintiff ought not to be allowed his costs out of the estate. (e) But in a subsequent case (f) Lord Cottenham ruled otherwise, and observed that it was contrary to reason and to the uniform practice of the court, that specialty creditors, who came in to take the benefit of the suit instituted by a simple contract creditor, should throw the burden of the costs of the suit upon the simple contract creditor, where the assets proved insufficient for the full satisfaction of their claims. And in a still later \* case (g) his lordship directed costs as between solicitor and client to be given out of the fund to a simple contract creditor, who was plaintiff in a suit to administer his deceased debtor's estate, although the assets had proved insufficient to satisfy the specialty creditors. But the insufficiency of the fund to pay the debts is the only case in which the plaintiff in a creditors' suit is entitled to his costs as between solicitor and client. (h) In a case (i) where, in a \* creditors' suit, a fund

(e) *Young v. Everest*, 1 Russ. & My. 426; *Rowlands v. Tucker*, Ib. 635, *coram* Sir J. Leach M. R.

(f) *Larkins v. Paxton*, 2 My. & K. 320.

(g) *Barker v. Wardle*, 2 My. & K. 818.

(h) *Brodie v. Bolton*, 3 My. & K. 168; *Tootle v. Spicer*, 4 Sim. 510. However, in *Sutton v. Doggett*, 3 Beav. 9, where in a creditors' suit the assets were sufficient to pay the debts, but insufficient to pay the debts and the costs of suit taxed as between party and party, Lord Langdale M. R. ordered the plaintiff's extra costs as between solicitor and client to be paid out of the fund. In *Wroughton v. Colquhoun*, 1 De G. & Sm. 357, where the suit had been instituted by a residuary legatee, and the assets proved insufficient for the payment of the expenses and the general legacies, it was held by Knight Bruce V. C. that the plaintiff was not entitled to his costs as between solicitor and client, except so far as the general estate had been increased by the proceeding. And

his honor, upon the case of *Burkitt v. Ransom*, 2 Coll. 536, being cited as a contrary decision of his own, observed that he must have proceeded, in that case, on the absence of opposition. See, also, *Hearn v. Wells*, 1 Coll. 323; and *Weston v. Clowes*, 15 Sim. 610. But see, *contra*, *Cross v. Kennington*, 11 Beav. 89. And in *Thomas v. Jones*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 134, Kindersley V. C. observed, that although no fixed rule had been followed, in all the cases the tendency of the decisions was in favor of the principle upon which *Cross v. Kennington* was decided. This was the case of a bill filed by a legatee for the administration of a testator's estate, which was insufficient to pay all the legacies, and his honor said that a legatee filing a bill, whether it is expressed or not that he files it on behalf of himself and the other legatees, is considered as representing them all; and applying the principle upon which *Cross v. Kennington* was decided, he held that the plaintiff was entitled to his costs as between solicitor and client.

(i) *Stanton v. Hatfield*, 1 Keen, 358.

[2037] [2038]



had been realized by the diligence of the plaintiff, and the assets were more than sufficient for payment of the debts, the costs of the plaintiff, as between party and party, were ordered to be paid out of the general fund, and the extra costs of the plaintiff were, under the circumstances, directed to be paid *pro rata* by all the creditors who partook of the benefit of the suit.

The principle in creditors' suits is, that where the suit is properly instituted, and the fund to be administered is insufficient to pay the plaintiff his costs, those who have come in and received a benefit under the decree must contribute to make good that loss which the plaintiff has borne on behalf of all the creditors. Therefore, creditors have been held liable to contribute, notwithstanding they obtained payment by reason of being associated with the defendant in the suit, who, as executor or administrator, had a right of retainer against the estate. (*k*) The usual direction in the decree above mentioned does not prevent the court, on further directions, from ordering, if the case warrants it, that the plaintiff shall pay all the costs of the suit. (*l*)

The court, where it has a fund to administer, and the case is one in which the opinion of the court on the question in the cause is necessary to be taken before the executor or administrator can properly administer the estate, has jurisdiction to give the plaintiff his costs, notwithstanding the bill is dismissed. (*m*) And

In *Wetenhall v. Dennis*, 33 Beav. 285, the bill was by a legatee for the administration of an estate of which the assets were insufficient for payment of the debts, and probably insufficient to pay the costs of suit; it was held that the costs were payable in the following order: 1. The costs of the legal personal representative as between solicitor and client; 2. The costs and expenses of the plaintiff in selling and getting in of the estate, and the costs of the heir in executing deeds; and 3. The other costs of all parties as between party and party.

(*k*) *Thompson v. Cooper*, 2 Coll. 87.

(*l*) 2 Phill. C. C. 294.

(*m*) *Thomason v. Moses*, 5 Beav. 77; *Westcott v. Culliford*, 3 Hare, 274; *Cooper v. Pitcher*, 4 Hare, 485; *Johnston v. Todd*, 8 Beav. 489; *Turner v. Frampton*, 2 Coll. 331; *Boreham v. Bignall*, 8 Hare, 131; [2

Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1411; *Decker v. Miller*, 2 Paige, 149; *Knox v. Pickett*, 4 Desaus. 199; *Connolly v. Pardon*, 1 Paige, 291; *Floyd v. Barker*, 1 Paige, 480; *Hosack v. Rogers*, 9 Paige, 461; *Chase v. Lockerman*, 11 Gill & J. 185; *Bigelow v. Morong*, 103 Mass. 287.] In *Hay v. Bowen*, 5 Beav. 610, where the bill had been filed by one who was entitled to a contingent reversionary interest, and a decree for an account obtained, but, before the report, the plaintiff's interest wholly failed, it was held that he was not entitled to his costs, either as against the defendants or the fund; [*McCammon v. Worrall*, 11 Paige, 99; *Rosevelt v. Ellithorpe*, 10 Paige, 415. Where any doubt or ambiguity arises under a will, with reference to any bequest or devise, which renders an application to the court necessary, the costs occasioned by such applica-

even in a case where a \*person, filling the double character of executor and trustee, makes claim for his own benefit and fails, yet if it is by way of submission of the point to the opinion of the court, he shall be allowed his costs. (*n*)

One consequence of this right of the plaintiff to his costs of the suit appears to be, that if the executor or administrator, after the decree, makes payment of a debt with a view to be reimbursed out of the fund in court, his right to be so reimbursed must be postponed to the payment of the plaintiff's costs; that is, he must run the risk of the fund not being sufficient to pay the costs and also to reimburse him. (*o*) Again, if the suit has been properly instituted and there are either assets in court or outstanding assets to be administered, it seems to have been held that the plaintiff's costs of suit must be paid out of those assets, whatever may be the hardship on the executor or administrator as to his demand on them in respect of having, before suit, paid other creditors of the estate with his own money. (*p*)

tion are to be paid, not out of the property with respect to which the doubt arises, but out of the general assets not otherwise disposed of. 2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1427; Wood v. Vanderpool, 6 Paige, 278; Smith v. Smith, 4 Paige, 271; King v. Strong, 9 Paige, 84; Irving v. De Kay, 9 Paige, 521; Rogers v. Ross, 4 John. Ch. 608; Bowditch v. Soltyk, 99 Mass. 136, 141; Deane v. Home for Aged Women, 111 Mass. 132, 135; *ante*, 1909, note (*q*); Annin v. Vandorin, 14 N. J. Eq. 135; Chase v. Lockerman, 11 Gill & J. 185; Floyd v. Barker, 1 Paige, 480; *ante*, 375, 376; Towle v. Swasey, 106 Mass. 100, 108; Sawyer v. Baldwin, 20 Pick. 388, 389; *ante*, 375, 376, and note; Decker v. Miller, *supra*. In Jacobus v. Jacobus, 20 N. J. Eq. 49, it was held that the costs and proper counsel fees for both parties may be ordered to be paid out of the estate, where, in a proper case, an executor files a bill for directions as to his duties under the will, and no factious or unnecessary opposition or costs are occasioned by any defendant.]

(*n*) Rashleigh v. Master, 1 Ves. jr. 205; [2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1414; Decker v. Miller, 2 Paige, 149; Delafield

v. Calden, 1 Paige, 139; Pall v. Ball, Spears (S. Car.), Ch. 48. But where a trustee has a private interest of his own, separate and independent from the trust, and obliges the *cestui que trust* to come into a court of equity, merely to have the point relating to his own private interest determined at the expense of the trust; this is such vexatious behavior, on his part, that he will be decreed to pay the whole costs of suit. 2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1414, 1415; Henley v. Phillips, 2 Atk. 48; Dupont v. Johnson, 1 Bailey Eq. 279; Gardner v. Gardner, 6 Paige, 455; Hunn v. Norton, 1 Hopk. 344; Jones v. Deyer, 16 Ala. 221.]

(*o*) Jackson v. Woolley, 12 Sim. 16, 17.

(*p*) Hearn v. Wells, 1 Coll. 323, 332, 333. In this case, Knight Bruce V. C. denied the proposition that an executor has a right in equity (whatever may be the rule at law, as to which, see *ante*, 646, 647), to acquire, as a purchaser, an absolute title to specific chattels, by intending so to deal with them, and by paying the testator's debts to an amount exceeding the value of those chattels. But see Vernon v. Thelluson, 1 Phill. C. C. 466, 470; *ante*, 1924.

But the personal representative's right of retainer for his own debt will prevail, as there has already been occasion to show, (q) against the plaintiff's right to his costs.

It was an established rule that creditors were not to be allowed of creditors any of the costs which they were put to, either in the coming in first instance, or in any stage of the proof of their claims under the decree: before the master under the decree. (r) But now by the \*40th section of the Consolidated Orders, rule 24, it is directed, that "a creditor who has come in and established his debt in the judges' chambers under a decree or order in a suit shall be entitled to the costs of so establishing his debt, and the sum to be allowed for such costs shall be fixed by the judge, unless he shall think fit to direct the taxation thereof; and the amount of such costs, or the sum allowed in respect thereof, shall be added to the debt so established." (s) Where the creditor fails to establish his debt, it has been lately held that he may be ordered to pay the costs of the inquiry consequent upon his claim. (t)

It has likewise been laid down as a general rule, that next of kin are not to be allowed the costs of establishing their claims in an administration suit. (u) But if next of kin, after having established their claims, are permitted to mix in the cause as if they had been parties, then in respect of such proceedings they may be entitled to their costs. (x) And in a case (y) where, in a suit for distribution of the intestate's estate, certain persons, not parties to the suit, proved themselves to be next of kin before the master, it was held that they were entitled to be paid the costs of so doing out of the intestate's

(q) *Ante*, 1039.

(r) Nor was a creditor entitled to costs, whose debts had been disallowed by the master, and allowed by the court on petition. *Watkins v. Maule*, Jacob, 105. But if his proof was beneficial to the estate, as where he saved by it the expense of a suit, and there were extraordinary costs, the court would give them on petition. *Harvey v. Harvey*, 6 Madd. 91.

(s) In *Morgan v. Elstob*, 4 Hare, 477, a creditor claimed, in an administration suit, to prove the penalty of a bond, as damages for the non-performance of a contract. The master reported the claim.

On the exceptions, the court gave the creditor liberty to bring an action. The action was brought, and the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff (the creditor), but with nominal damages. The court, upon this result, refused the creditor the costs of making the claim before the master, and the costs of the action, but gave him the costs of the exceptions.

(t) *Hatch v. Searles*, 2 Sm. & G. 147.

(u) *Waite v. Waite*, 6 Madd. 110.

(x) 6 Madd. 110.

(y) *Bennett v. Wood*, 7 Sim. 532; *Yeomans v. Haynes*, 24 Beav. 127.

estate. (2) The principle laid down by Lord Cottenham on this head was, that next of kin, who are not parties, shall be allowed the same costs as \* if the plaintiffs had brought them regularly before the court as parties; and, consequently, that if they would, as parties, have been entitled to their costs of proceedings in the master's office for the purpose of making out their claim and their costs of appearing on further directions, but not otherwise, they shall also be allowed those costs on taxation. (a)

(2) See, also, accord. *Bakewell v. Taggart*, 3 Y. & Coll. 173, *coram* Alderson B.

(a) *Hutchinson v. Freeman*, 4 My. & Cr. 490; *Shuttleworth v. Howarth*, Ib. 492; 1 Cr. & Ph. 228. Residuary legatees and other persons served with the decree and obtaining an order (under stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 42, rule 8) for liberty to attend the proceedings under the decree are, it would seem, in the same position as to costs, as persons parties to the cause. *Morg. & Davey's Costs* in Chanc. 127. These costs do not include costs incurred out of doors in collecting information as to the pedigree — not the costs of private inquiry; but all the costs incurred in the master's office — the costs of proceedings in the suit. But see *Swift v. Swift*, 1 De G., F. & J. 160. And where

Whether the costs are to be paid out of the particular fund or out of the general estate.

next of kin, or other persons claiming as a class under the will, succeed in establishing their title, their costs, thus defined, incurred in so doing, are not to be paid exclusively out of the portions attributable to such classes respectively, but out of the general estate before any apportionment of it takes place. 1 Cr. & Ph. 228. So where a legacy is claimed, in an administration suit, by two legatees adversely to each other, the costs must be borne by the testator's estate (inasmuch as the question arises on his will) and not by the legacy. *Wilson v. Squire*, 13 Sim. 212. See, also, *Ripley v. Moysey*, 1 Keen, 578; *Eyre v. Marsden*, 4 My. & Cr. 231. But where a residuary estate was divisible amongst several persons, and an account was made up, and the adults received their shares; and the infants filed a bill

for an account against the executors and the other residuary legatees, who being satisfied, deprecated the proceedings, and the accounts turned out to be substantially correct; it was held that the costs of the suit were payable out of the plaintiffs' share alone. *Mackenzie v. Taylor*, 7 Beav. 467. The rule has been laid down to be, that if the executors, admitting the legacy to be payable, sever it from the estate, and a dispute arises between the persons to whom, or some of whom, the legacy belongs, and the court has to decide to whom it belongs, there the particular fund bears the costs; *secus*, if the dispute arises between the persons claiming the residue and the residuary legatee, whether it is payable. *Atty. Gen. v. Lawes*, 8 Hare, 43, by Wigram V. C.; [*Bigelow v. Morong*, 103 Mass. 287; *ante*, 2038, note (m).] Where there are no other assets, the costs must be paid out of the specific legacies *pari passu*. *Bristow v. Bristow*, 5 Beav. 289; *Cookson v. Bingham*, 17 Beav. 262. In an administration suit, involving both real and personal estate, the rule is, that the general personal estate of a testator is liable to all costs occasioned by his mistake, or rendered necessary for the purpose of obtaining the opinion of the court on the construction of his will, though some of those costs may have been incurred in proceedings affecting the real estate only, and the result of which is to benefit a devisee of the real estate. *Ripley v. Moysey*, 1 Keen, 578; *Pickford v. Brown*, 2 K. & J. 426; *Stringer v. Harper*, 26 Beav. 585. But see *Sanders v. Miller*, 25 Beav. 154; *Bagot v. Legge*, 2 Dr. & Sm. 259. It would seem

\* It remains to consider in what cases the executor or administrator is entitled to receive his costs from the plaintiff. In a creditor's suit, if it turns out that there are no assets applicable to the payment of the plaintiff's debt, the plaintiff will be ordered to pay the costs. (b) But in *Robinson v. Elliott*, (c) a creditor filed a bill against an executrix, and she stated, by her answer, that there were no assets for the payment of his debt; he, however, persisted in the suit; and the result of the account in the master's office was, that there were no assets unadministered, though the executrix was charged with more than she had admitted. And it was held that the bill should be dismissed without costs as against the executrix. In another case, (d) on further directions, the case appeared to be, that application had been made to an executor for an account, but that he gave no account. The bill was then filed; and by his answer, the defendant stated the accounts; but the plaintiff \*took a decree for an account. It turned out, on the master's report, that the account given by the answer was correct; and the question then was as to costs. The vice chancellor gave the plaintiff the costs of the suit up to the decree; and the defendant the costs of the subsequent proceedings.

The court will, immediately upon admission of assets by an executor or administrator, order so much as he admits to have in his hands to be paid into court; (e) though it was formerly thought necessary for the plaintiff to show that the executor or administrator had abused his trust,

that where real estates are sold under a decree in an administration suit, the costs incurred by such sale will be payable out of the estates sold. *Barnwell v. Iremonger*, 1 Dr. & Sm. 242, 255. In the case of a mixed fund of real and personal estate which are administered together, the costs will be apportioned ratably out of each according to their value. *Bunnett v. Foster*, 7 Beav. 540; S. C. on appeal, *sub nom.*; *Christian v. Foster*, 2 Phill. 161; *Eyre v. Marsden*, 4 My. & Cr. 231; *Johnston v. Todd*, 8 Beav. 489; *Cradock v. Owen*, 2 Sm. & Giff. 241. If the costs of an administration suit are increased by its being

also a suit for the executor of the trusts of a settlement, the court has held that the additional costs must be borne by the settlement fund. *Irby v. Irby*, 24 Beav. 525.

(b) *Bluett v. Jessop*, Jacob, 240; *Fuller v. Green*, 24 Beav. 217.

(c) 1 Russ. 599.

(d) *Anon.* 4 Madd. 373.

(e) *Strange v. Harris*, 3 Bro. C. C. 365; *Blake v. Blake*, 2 Sch. & Lef. 26; *Rutherford v. Dawson*, 2 Ball & Beat. 17; [*M'Kim v. Thompson*, 1 Bland, 156; *Clarkson v. De Peyster*, 1 Hopk. 274; 2 Dan. Ch. Pr. (4th Am. ed.) 1771.]

or that the fund was' in danger from his insolvent circumstances. (*f*)

The rule appears to have been limited by Lord Redesdale (*g*) to cases in which there are no debts, or the debts are all paid, and there is no purpose for which the money is to be left outstanding. But the rule appears to be much more extensive, and any balance which is admitted to be in the executor's hands will be ordered into court, notwithstanding there are demands on it to which the executor is liable. (*h*) Thus, in *Yare v. Harrison*, (*i*) an executor having admitted a large balance of the personal estate to be in his hands, was ordered to pay the whole into court, although he stated that an action at law was depending against him for a debt to a considerable amount due from the testator; but with liberty, in case the plaintiff in the action should recover, to apply to the court to have a sufficient sum paid out again. The plaintiff in the action did recover, and the \* court ordered the amount to be paid out to *the plaintiff in the action*, and not to the executor. (*k*)

Where the executor admits himself to have been a debtor to the testator at the time of his death, this has always been held a clear admission of assets in his hands to the amount of the debt, and he is compellable to pay it into court accordingly. (*l*) In this case, the person to pay and the person to receive being the same, the court assumes that what ought to have been done has been done, and orders the payment, not as of a debt by a debtor, but as of moneys realized in the hands of the executor. (*m*)

The court, in making an order of this kind, adheres strictly to the rule of acting on the executor's admission only; and will refuse to proceed upon its knowledge derived from any other source. (*n*)

(*f*) *Strange v. Harris*, 3 Bro. C. C. 365; *Blake v. Blake*, 2 Sch. & Lef. 26.

(*g*) *Blake v. Blake*, 2 Sch. & Lef. 26.

(*h*) 2 Dan. Ch. Fr. (4th Am. ed.) 1770, 1771. If an executor admits that all the testator's debts, &c. have been paid, the court will, on motion, order the income of a balance, paid in by the executor, to be paid to the person entitled to the residue. *Dando v. Dando*, 1 Sim. 510. But see *Abby v. Gilford*, 11 Beav. 28.

(*i*) 2 Cox, 377.

(*k*) It having been suggested in this

case, that the executor had incurred unnecessary costs, by defending the action, the question whether he should personally answer to the estate for the amount of such costs was reserved to the hearing.

(*l*) *Mortlock v. Leathes*, 2 Meriv. 491; *Rothwell v. Rothwell*, 2 Sim. & Stu. 218; *Costeker v. Horrox*, 3 Y. & Coll. 530; *Toulmin v. Copland*, Ib. 625; *White v. Barton*, 18 Beav. 192.

(*m*) *Richardson v. Bank of England*, 4 My. & Cr. 174, 175, by Lord Cottenham.

(*n*) 4 My. & Cr. 176, 177; *Meyer v.*

Money admitted by the executor to be in the hands of his partner is in his own hands for the purpose of being ordered to be paid into court. (*o*)

Where the executor admits that a certain amount of assets has come to his possession, he may discharge himself from the payment of it into court, wholly or partially, by taking credit for sums which he shows a right to retain for his own debt, due from the testator, (*p*) or to have allowed him on any just grounds, or which are undisputed. (*q*) Where an executor admits that he has received \* a certain sum belonging to the testator's estate, but adds that he has made payments, the amount of which he does not specify, the court will allow him to verify the amount of his payments, by affidavit, and order him, on motion, to pay the balance into court. (*r*)

But when there is a sufficient admission by the executor of assets once come to his hands, he cannot relieve himself from paying them into court by showing any unauthorized application of them, or any investment or disposition of them which in substance amounts to a breach of his duty as executor. (*s*)

In *Freeman v. Fairlie*, (*t*) it was held that an admission by an executor that the whole amount of the property was near 40,000*l.*, and that the whole was invested in India on public securities, either in his name, or in the name of the house in which he was a partner, but subject to his disposal, unless some part was in the hands of the said house at interest, which he believed might be the case, was not a sufficient admission of money in his hands to order the payment into court of any part of it; for that though an executor dealing with money in his hands was bound to earmark it, yet, if he did not, and could not answer as to the state of it, the court had no power to act as upon an admission. But in *Roy v. Gibbon*, (*u*) it was said by Wigram V. C. that the rule

*Montrion*, 4 Beav. 343; *Scott v. Wheeler*, 12 Beav. 366.

(*o*) *Johnston v. Aston*, 1 Sim. & Stu. 73; *White v. Barton*, 18 Beav. 192.

(*p*) *Middleton v. Poole*, 2 Coll. 246.

(*q*) *Roy v. Gibbon*, 4 Hare, 65; *Nokes v. Seppings*, 2 Phill. 19.

(*r*) *Anon.* 4 Sim. 359. See, also, *Proudfoot v. Hume*, 4 Beav. 477, per Lord Langdale.

(*s*) *Wyatt v. Sharratt*, 3 Beav. 498; *Hinde v. Blake*, 4 Beav. 597; *Score v. Ford*, 7 Beav. 333; *Roy v. Gibbon*, 4 Hare, 65; *Ingle v. Partridge*, 32 Beav. 661; or by setting up the adverse title of a third party; *Lord v. Purchase*, 17 Beav. 171.

(*t*) 3 Meriv. 39.

(*u*) 4 Hare, 65.

was, perhaps, less strict at the present day than it was stated in *Freeman v. Fairlie*; and that the practice now was, that where a party charged himself with the receipt of a fund, he was bound by that charge till he had relieved himself from it by showing a proper application of the money; and that it was not enough for him whose duty it \* was to know the truth and be ready with information, to leave the application in doubt, by merely expressing ignorance with regard to the charges to which the fund was liable. (x)

If there is no danger of the property being lost, from the executor being an insolvent or otherwise, a reasonable time will be allowed for bringing the fund into court; and a longer time will be allowed when the money is in a foreign country. (y) And if the assets appear to have been invested on an improper security, time will be allowed (which may, in a proper case, be extended from time to time) to enable the executor to realize the security. (z) And in fixing the day for payment time will be allowed for the trustee, if he desires it, to show that no reason exists for calling the money into court. (a)

The relief on a motion of this kind will be confined to the payment of money into court, and the court will not direct any permanent relief, such as the repurchase of stock which had been sold by the executor; for that can be done only at the hearing of the cause. (b)

Though a receiver may have been appointed during a litigation in the ecclesiastical court respecting the validity of a will, the court of equity will not, on that account alone, order the person named as executor to pay into court money in his hands belonging to the testator's estate received previously to the appointment of the receiver. (c)

The general rule as to payment of money into court is, that the plaintiffs must be solely entitled, or have such an interest jointly with others as to entitle them, on behalf \* of themselves and of those others, to have the fund secured. (d)

(x) See, also, *Hinde v. Blake*, 4 Beav. 597.

(y) *Roy v. Gibbon*, 4 Hare, 65.

(z) *Score v. Ford*, 7 Beav. 333; 3 Beav. 498; 4 Beav. 599.

(a) *Hill on Trustees*, 571; *Hinde v. Blake*, 4 Beav. 599.

(b) *Futter v. Jackson*, 6 Beav. 424; *Hill on Trustees*, 570.

(c) *Reed v. Harris*, 7 Sim. 639; *Edwards v. Edwards*, 10 Hare App. II. lxiii.

(d) 3 Meriv. 29. Where part of a residuary estate has been invested on an



An executor, having been ordered to pay money into court, is not thereby deprived of his right of retainer, (e) nor of his lien on the fund for his costs. (f)

The general rule as to papers and writings is, that an executor representing an estate should deposit them, for the <sup>Production of papers, &c.</sup> benefit of the parties interested, in the office of the clerk of records and writs, in whose division the cause is, unless there are other purposes which require that he should retain them in his own hands. (g) But where the production of documents is required, the application for it must in all cases be made by summons at chambers, and the party required to produce will then be ordered to file an affidavit, stating what documents he has, or has had, in his possession or power relating to the matters in question, and to produce and leave the same (excepting such as he may by his affidavit object to produce) with the clerk of records and writs. (h)

It may here be observed, that it is the bounden duty of an executor to keep clear and distinct accounts of the property which he is bound to administer. If, therefore, he chooses to mix the accounts with those of his own trading concerns, he cannot thereby protect himself from producing the original books, in which any part of those accounts may be inserted. \* It is a more difficult question, as between an executor, bound to produce, and his partner in trade; but if the partners have *permitted* him to mix the accounts, it seems they cannot afterwards object to the production. Clearly so, in a case where the executor has admitted the having lent to the house part of the trust property, and that they have been dealing with it. (i)

Accordingly, in *Freeman v. Fairlie*, (k) an executor in India, improper security, and the defendant has an interest therein, the court, on being satisfied that there is no existing claim on the estate, sometimes confines the amount to be paid into court to the share of the plaintiff. *Score v. Ford*, 7 Beav. 333.

(e) *Ante*, 1040.

(f) *Blenkinsop v. Foster*, 3 Y. & Coll. 207, *coram Alderson B.*

(g) *Freeman v. Fairlie*, 3 Meriv. 30.

(h) See 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, sects. 18, 20, and Cons. Orders, 42, rule 3. See, also, *Rochdale Canal Company v. King*, 15 Beav. 11. *Prima facie* evidence in sup-

port of a claim will entitle a creditor in an administration suit to an order directing the executors to file an affidavit as to their possession of documents relating to the claim, or to any item in it. *Re McVeagh*, 1 De G., J. & S. 399.

(i) 3 Meriv. 43, 44. The court, however, will not order a defendant, who has a joint possession of a document with some one else not before the court, to produce the document itself. *Taylor v. Randall*, Cr. & Ph. 111.

(k) 3 Meriv. 44.

coming to England, and after twenty-one years, being called upon to account, alleging that he had left his books, &c. behind him in India, was ordered to produce copies of all entries in such books, &c. within six months, though it was impossible he could do so, in order that the court might have an opportunity from time to time of seeing that he had used proper diligence.

If the plaintiff's demand be uncontested or proved, and the executor admits assets, the plaintiff is entitled to immediate payment without taking the accounts. (*l*) And it may be further observed, that where a bill has been filed, the same doctrine prevails though the executor denies assets in hand at the time of filing his answer, if he also discloses that he had at one time sufficient assets, but that he has since misapplied them. (*m*) An admission of assets for the payment of a legacy is an admission of assets for the purposes \* of the suit, and extends to costs, if the court think fit to give them. (*n*)

When the court will decree payment of the plaintiff's demand without first decreeing an account:

Again, if a bill charges that the executor has rendered himself personally liable to pay the plaintiff's debt or legacy by an admission of assets made before suit, or by any other means, and the plaintiff can sustain this allegation, he will entitle himself to a decree for payment at once. (*o*) And the general rule is, that an admission of assets by an executor or administrator can never be retracted in a court of equity, unless a case of mistake be most clearly established. (*p*)

where the executor has made himself personally liable by admitting assets, &c.

(*l*) *Woodgate v. Field*, 2 Hare, 211. Where the answer admitted assets, but insisted that, under the circumstances stated, the legacy sought to be recovered had been paid, it was held that the plaintiff had a right to read the passage admitting the assets, without reading that as to the payment of the legacy. *Conop v. Hayward*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 33. An admission of assets by the executor's answer is waived by the plaintiff's going on to an account of assets, and procuring a receiver to be appointed. *Wall v. Bushby*, 1 Bro. C. C. 484.

(*m*) *Rogers v. Soutten*, 2 Keen, 598.

(*n*) *Philanthropic Society v. Hobson*, 2 My. & K. 357. If there are several executors, and some admit assets, yet an ac-

count may be decreed against the rest. *Norton v. Turvil*, 2 P. Wms. 145. Where, in an examination put in by two executors, it was stated that their receipts had been joint, but it appeared by affidavit that that statement was made through mistake and inadvertence, and that one of the executors had, in fact, received nothing, liberty was given to him to put in a supplemental affidavit to correct the mistake. *Hewes v. Hewes*, 4 Sim. 1.

(*o*) *Barnard v. Pumfret*, 5 My. & Cr. 63; *Dimsdale v. Dudding*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 265.

(*p*) *Drewry v. Thacker*, 3 Swanst. 548; *Roberts v. Roberts*, cited 1 Bro. C. C. 487; S. C. 2 Dick. 573.

If, however, a strong case be made out, this may enable the court to relieve him from the admission; (q) as if the money were in a banker's hands, who fails. But the executor or administrator must clearly prove the mistake, and show that the circumstance, on which he built his admission, failed. (r)

The admission of assets by an executor will not preclude creditors from coming on a fund specifically appropriated for their benefit, although that fund may have been disposed of to a purchaser. (s)

With respect to what shall amount to an admission of assets, <sup>What is an admission of assets.</sup> it was held in a case, (t) where the deceased gave money upon mortgage to a charity in Ireland, that his executrix, \* by her own will attempting to provide other means for payment of that legacy, and stating as a reason that his personal estate was out on mortgage, thereby admitted assets of her testator. (u) Payment of interest for a legacy by the executor, from time to time, will be evidence of assets, though a single instance of payment of interest will not. (x) So where executors from time to time had made some payments on account of principal and interest on a legacy, and, about nine years after the testator's death, passed their accounts at the legacy duty office, showing a considerable residue; Lord Langdale held that the legatee was entitled to an immediate decree for payment of the legacy, without first taking an account of the testator's estate. (y)

(q) See *Foster v. Foster*, 2 Bro. C. C. 619; *Young v. Walter*, 9 Ves. 365.

(r) *Horsley v. Challoner*, 2 Ves. sen. 85, *infra*, 2052.

(s) *Curtis v. Blow*, 2 B. & Ad. 426.

(t) *Campbell v. Lord Radnor*, 1 Bro. C. C. 271; 5 My. & Cr. 70.

(u) See, also, *Elliott v. Holwell*, 1 Cas. temp. Lee, 574.

(x) *Corporation of Clergymen's Sons v. Swainson*, 1 Ves. sen. 75; 5 My. & Cr. 70, by Lord Cottenham; *Atty. Gen. v. Chapman*, 3 Beav. 255; *Atty. Gen. v. Higham*, 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 634. But payment of the interest of a specific or demonstrative legacy, when that payment is clearly not made out of the general assets, nor a payment referable to the general assets, is not an admission of general assets. *Severs v. Severs*, 1 Sm. & G. 400.

Executors having invested an infant's legacy in their partnership concern, it was held that the entry by them in the partnership books of the amount of the legacy to the credit of the legatee was a sufficient admission of assets, there being no evidence that the entries were mistaken, and the course of conduct observed being consistent with them. *Townend v. Townend*, 1 Giff. 201. For an instance in which a similar entry was held not to amount to an admission of assets, see *Hutton v. Rositer*, 7 De G., M. & G. 9.

(y) *Whittle v. Henning*, 2 Beav. 396. See, further, as to admission of assets by having given a legatee the legacy office receipt for duty on the legacy, *Lazonby v. Rawson*, 2 Sm. & G. 267; 4 De G., M. & G. 556, S. C.

But in *Postlethwaite v. Mounsey*, (z) it was held by Wigram V. C. that payment by the executor of the interest of a legacy to the tenant for life under the will was not conclusive as an admission of assets by the executor; but that such payment might be explained as having been made by mistake, or for other reasons or causes; and that in that \* case the usual account of assets might be directed. And his honor observed, that it would be difficult to hold that the payment of one legacy would, of itself, bind the executor to pay all the legacies given by the will. Suppose a case in which small legacies were given to servants, and the executor chose, on his own responsibility, to pay those legacies at once, without reference to the state of the assets, it would be hard to say that he had thereby conclusively bound himself to pay all the legacies given by the will. In the subsequent case of *Savage v. Lane*, (a) the same learned judge held, that, at all events, where the bill in a creditor's suit does not specifically charge the executor with having made himself personally liable, but prays that an account may be taken and the estate administered, the executor's admission in his answer, that he has paid certain legacies, is not such an admission of assets as to entitle the plaintiff to a decree without taking the account.

The general rule, however, is that an admission of assets by the executor to one claimant on them is an admission to all. (b)

In *Holland v. Clark*, (c) Sarah Clark bequeathed a legacy of 150*l.* to Susannah C., when she should attain 21. The testatrix died in 1811, and the legatee did not attain 21 till several years afterwards, and she then married. In 1825 the executors signed and gave to her husband this memorandum: "We separately and jointly acknowledge to owe to George Holland the sum of 150*l.*, being a legacy left to his wife by the late Sarah Clark, and 50*l.* interest thereon." And it was held by Knight Bruce V. C. that, under the circumstances, this memorandum amounted to an admission of assets by the executors.

The authorities as to the probate stamp being admissible, and its effect in evidence as to the amount of assets, have already been examined. (d)

(z) 6 Hare, 33, note (a). See, also, *Cr. 70*, by Lord Cottenham. [See *Moorhead's Appeal*, 32 Penn. St. 297.]

(a) 6 Hare, 32.

(b) *Cook v. Martyn*, 2 Atk. 2; 5 My. &

(c) 2 Y. & Coll. C. C. 319 conf.; *Stephens v. Venables*, 31 Beav. 124.

(d) See *ante*, 1989.

\* It only remains to be noticed that an admission is always susceptible of explanation. Thus, in *Payne v. Little*, (e) Romilly M. R. observed, that every admission of assets made by an executor, whether it be made by his acts or by an express admission in words, must have reference to the circumstances which he was then acquainted with, and if "the circumstances on which he built his admission fail him" (an expression used by Sir John Strange in *Horsley v. Chaloner* (f)), then the admission fails also, and he cannot be bound by an admission made under circumstances with which he was not acquainted.

If an executor changes the nature of the testator's estate, the general rule is, that this is a conversion; and as money <sup>Remedy for devastavit.</sup> has no ear-mark, it cannot be followed; but the executor by such transactions has made himself liable to a *devastavit*, (g) for which the party injured must seek satisfaction out of the executor's own effects. (h) If an executor purchases estates with the assets, and takes the conveyance in his own name, without the trust appearing on the face of the deeds, the estate will not be liable to the trusts, although he die insolvent, unless the application of the purchase-money can be clearly improved. (i)

But if an executor, for the benefit of the testator's estate, should invest part of it in the funds, or transfer money from one stock to another, this is not a conversion, but it may still be followed, as much as if it had continued in the same condition as at the testator's death. (k)

The general question, as to the right of creditors and legatees to follow the assets into the hands of the person to whom the executor has aliened them, has been investigated in a former part of this work. (l)

\* In *Skinner v. Sweet*, (m) it appeared that an executrix, in respect of her receipt as such, was considerably indebted to the estate, and that she had an annuity of 250*l.* given to her by the will. Sir John Leach V. C. directed that her annuity, as it be-

(e) 22 Beav. 69.

(f) 2 Ves. sen. 83.

(g) *Waite v. Whorwood*, 2 Atk. 159.

(h) *Charlton v. Low*, 3 P. Wms. 330.

(i) 2 Sugd. V. & P. 148, 9th ed.

See *Kendar v. Milward*, 2 Vern. 440; *Kirk v. Webb*, Prec. Chanc. 84; *Deg v.*

*Deg*, 2 P. Wms. 414, 415; *Ryall v. Ry-*

all, 1 Atk. 59; *Wilkins v. Stevens*, 1 Y. & Coll. 431.

(k) 2 Atk. 159.

(l) *Ante*, 932 *et seq.* See, also, *Downes v. Power*, 2 Ball & Beat. 491; *Silver v. Stein*, 1 Drew. 295; *Collinson v. Lister*, 20 Beav. 356.

(m) 3 Madd. 244.

came due, should be applied in payment of the debt due to the estate, with liberty to apply to the court when the debt due to the estate should be discharged. So where an executor assigns his reversionary legacy, the assignee takes it subject to the equities which attached to the executor; and therefore, if the executor, though subsequently to the assignment, wastes the testator's assets, the assignee cannot receive the legacy till satisfaction has been made for the breach of trust. (n)

The party injured by a *devastavit* is but a simple contract creditor of the executor, (o) and the claim is consequently barred after the lapse of six years by the statute of limitations. (p)

In *Geary v. Beaumont*, (q) a specific legacy was given to an executor, who afterwards became bankrupt, and committed a *devastavit*. The subject of the specific bequest was sold by his assignees; and Sir W. Grant held that the produce in their hands was not specifically liable to make good the *devastavit*, in favor of the parties beneficially entitled under the will, but that such parties were only entitled to prove to the amount of the *devastavit*. Bankrupt or insolvent executor.

If an executor becomes bankrupt, having wasted the assets, the *devastavit* might have been proved under the commission. (r) In *Ex parte Moody*, (s) it was holden that an executor and trustee, having committed a *devastavit*, was precluded from proving under his own bankruptcy. And \*liberty to do so was given (in the first instance, and without previous application to the commissioners) to a legatee, on behalf of himself and others, with a direction that the dividends should be paid into the bank, in trust in the matter. (t)

In the case of an executor committing a *devastavit*, and a decree for payment of the amount, the debt is considered as due from the time of the *devastavit*, and not from the date of the

(n) *Morris v. Livie*, 1 Y. & Coll. C. C. 380; *ante*, 1404. See, also, *Barnett v. Sheffield*, 1 De G., M. & G. 371.

(o) *Charlton v. Low*, 3 P. Wms. 331.

(p) *Thorne v. Kerr*, 2 Kay & J. 54.

(q) 3 Meriv. 431.

(r) *Toller*, 429.

(s) 2 Rose, 413.

(t) See *Ex parte Colman*, 2 D. & Ch. 584. Where the bankrupt is one of several executors, and has before his bank-

ruptcy received a part of the assets, the other executors may prove the amount against his estate. *Ex parte Brown*, 1 D. & Ch. 118; *Ex parte Phillips*, 2 Deac. 334. Generally speaking the bankrupt himself may prove upon his own estate for a debt due to him, as sole executor, upon obtaining an order to that effect from the court. *Ex parte Shaw*, 1 Glyn & Jam. 127; *Ex parte Wyatt*, 2 D. & Ch. 211.

decree; and therefore, where a person was committed under an attachment for breach of a writ of execution of a decree for payment of money on account of a *devastavit*, it was held that as he had, between the time of the *devastavit* and the date of the decree, taken the benefit of the insolvent debtors' act, and had been ordered to be discharged by the court of quarter sessions, he might be brought up on a *habeas corpus* before the chancellor, and discharged. (u) Again, the certificate of a bankrupt executor discharges an attachment against him for breach of an order to pay a sum of money, part of the personal estate, found to be in his hands. (v)

By stat. 13 & 14 Vict. c. 60 (the trustee act), repealing stat. 11 Geo. 4 and 1 W. 4, c. 60, the lord chancellor (s. 3) is empowered to make orders for the vesting of the lands of lunatic trustees and mortgagees in such person or persons, and in such manner and for such estate, as he shall direct; (s. 4) and to make orders releasing or disposing \* of contingent rights in lands to which such lunatic trustees or mortgagees shall be entitled. He is also empowered (s. 5) to make orders vesting the right to transfer stock or to sue for and recover any chose in action to which a lunatic trustee or mortgagee may be solely or jointly entitled; (s. 6) or to transfer stock standing in the name of a deceased person, *whose personal representative is a lunatic or person of unsound mind*, or to sue for and recover a chose in action vested in any such lunatic as the personal representative of a deceased person. (x)

And the same act (the provisions of which are extended by stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 55) enables the court of chancery (ss. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12) to make orders vesting the estates, and releasing or disposing of the contingent rights of infant trustees and mortgagees, or of trustees out of the jurisdiction of the court. It further empowers the court (s. 13) to make orders for the vesting of lands when it is uncertain which of several trustees was the survivor, or (s. 14) whether the last trustee be

(u) *Wheldale v. Wheldale*, 16 Ves. 376; *Mont. & A.* 562, that an executor cannot be called on to account for money which

(v) *Wall v. Atkinson*, Cooper, 198; *S.* might have been proved under his commission.

C. 2 Rose, 196. See, also, *Walcott v. Hall*, 2 Bro. C. C. 305; *Ex parte Holt*, 2

(x) In re *White*, L. R. 5 Ch. App. 698.

living or dead ; and (s. 15) in cases where the trustee has died without an heir, and (s. 16) to release lands from the contingent rights of unborn trustees or vest them ; and (15 & 16 Vict. c. 55, s. 2, repealing 17th and 18th sections of the trustee act) in case of the refusal or neglect of a trustee to convey or release, to make an order for vesting the estate ; whilst by sect. 20 of the trustee act it is provided, that in every case where the lord chancellor or the court of chancery shall be enabled to make an order having the effect of a conveyance or assignment of any lands, or having the effect of a release or disposition of the contingent right of any person or persons, born or unborn, it shall also be lawful for the lord chancellor or the court of chancery, as the case may be, should it be deemed more convenient, to make an order appointing a person to convey or assign such lands, or release or dispose of such contingent right.

Similar powers of making orders vesting a right to \*transfer or recover are by these acts given to the court of chancery (13 & 14 Vict. c. 60, s. 22) in cases where the trustees of any stock or chose in action are out of the jurisdiction of the court, or cannot be found, or concerning whom it is uncertain whether they be living or dead, or (15 & 16 Vict. c. 35, s. 3) in the case of an infant solely or jointly entitled to any stock upon any trust ; whilst (15 & 16 Vict. c. 55, s. 4, altering sects. 23 and 24 of trustee act) if any person shall neglect or refuse to transfer any stock or to receive the dividends or income thereof, or to sue for or recover any chose in action, or any interest in respect thereof, for the space of twenty-eight days next after an order of the court of chancery for that purpose shall have been served upon him, it shall be lawful for the court of chancery to make an order vesting the right to transfer or recover in such person as the court shall appoint ; and on like refusal or neglect of an executor in respect of the transfer of stock standing in the sole name of a deceased person, a similar order may be made.

By the 6th and 7th sections of 15 & 16 Vict. c. 55 (extending the provisions of the 26th section of the trustee act), Bank of England, &c. must obey orders, and will be indemnified. the bank of England, and all companies and associations whatever, are ordered to obey such orders ; and every order so made is declared to be an indemnity to the bank and to all companies so obeying.

By the interpretation clause of the trustee act, " The word



'trust' shall not mean the duties incident to an estate conveyed by way of mortgage; but, with this exception, the word  
Interpreta-  
tion clause. 'trust' and 'trustee' shall extend to and include implied and constructive trusts, and shall extend to and include cases where the trustee has some beneficial estate or interest in the subject of the trust, and shall extend to and include the duties incident to the office of personal representative of a deceased person."

## \*CHAPTER THE THIRD.

OF REMEDIES AGAINST EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS IN  
THE COURT OF PROBATE.

It has been shown, in an earlier stage of this treatise, that an executor, upon making probate, as well as administrator on taking out letters of administration, makes oath that he will (amongst other things) render a true and just account of the estate and effects of the deceased whenever required by law so to do; (a) and that an administrator under the court of probate act must give bond conditioned (*inter alia*) to "make a true and just account of his administration" whenever required by law so to do. (b)

Of compelling the executor, &c. to account.

However, it is said that neither an executor nor administrator can be cited by the court of probate *ex officio* to account; (c)

(a) *Ante*, 325, 453, 456.

(b) *Ante*, 532. [In Connecticut this accounting must be done in the probate court, and that is the only place where it can be done in the state. *Brush v. Button*, 36 Conn. 292; *Bacon v. Fairman*, 6 Conn. 121; *Pitkin v. Pitkin*, 7 Conn. 315; *Bailey v. Strong*, 8 Conn. 278; *Wattles v. Hyde*, 9 Conn. 10; *Beach v. Norton*, 9 Conn. 182; *Cowles v. Whitman*, 10 Conn. 121; *Atwater v. Bruce*, 21 Conn. 237. An executor's account cannot be settled in a suit on the probate bond. *Brush v. Bacon*, 36 Conn. 292. See Judge of Probate *v. Adams*, 49 N. H. 150; *Coffin v. Jones*, 5 Pick. 61; *Prescott v. Parker*, 14 Mass. 429; *Adams v. Adams*, 16 Vt. 228. In Vermont the condition of the bond being that executors will "well and truly administer according to law, and out of the estate pay and discharge all debts, legacies, and charges chargeable therein, or such dividends as shall be ordered and

decreed to be paid by said court," &c. in usual form, it is held that they cannot be charged by suit with a breach of the bond in respect to paying legacies, until there shall have been an order and decree of the probate court to that effect, and failure to comply therewith. *Probate Court v. Kimball*, 42 Vt. 320. So in New Jersey, *The Ordinary v. Barcalow*, 7 Vroom, 15. The same rule obtains as to a suit on the bond of administrators for non-payment of a distributive share. *Ante*, 534, note (g<sup>2</sup>), 540, note (g).]

(c) *Toller*, 491; *Archbishop of Canterbury v. Wills*, 1 Salk. 315, 316; stat. 1 Jac. 2, c. 17. The ordinary, said Lord Hardwicke, after an administrator has exhibited an inventory, cannot compel the administrator to account, but it must be *ad instantiam partis*, and, therefore, the inventory and account are, as to the ordinary, the same thing. *Greenside v. Benson*, 3 Atk. 253.

though the executor or administrator may be compelled to exhibit an inventory, and render an account of his administration of the personal estate of his testator or intestate in that court, at the instance of a legatee or next of kin, or of a creditor. Accordingly, it was held in *Wainford v. Barker*, (*d*) that a debt, on which the statute of limitations had attached, would enable a creditor to compel the administrator to account before the ordinary; for it is a debt, though barrable by pleading the statute of limitations. (*e*) And there has already been occasion, in \*treating of the subject of inventories, to adduce several instances which prove that an executor or administrator is compellable to render an account before the court of probate at the prayer of any person having an interest, or even the *appearance* of an interest. (*f*) In the same part of this work may be found collected some authorities upon other questions connected with this subject, viz, after what lapse of time an account may be sued, (*g*) and also what persons are compellable to render an account. (*h*)

The creditors and legatees, and all other parties having an interest, must be cited to be present at the making of the account; otherwise the account made in their absence will not bind them. (*i*) Therefore the executor or administrator, when called upon by any one party to render an account, ought to cite the next of kin in special, and all others in general, having or pretending to have an interest in the goods of the deceased, to be present, if they think fit, at the rendering and passing of the account; and then, on their appearance, or contumacy in not appearing, the judge shall proceed, and the account thus determined will be final. (*k*)

If a party having an interest call upon the executor or administrator to exhibit an inventory of the effects, and to render an account of his administration thereof, the executor or administra-

(*d*) 1 Ld. Raym. 232.

(*e*) See, also, *Philpison v. Harvey*, 2 Cas. temp. Lee, 344.

(*f*) *Ante*, 975, 976. A party having an interest, who prays an account, shall not be condemned in costs, unless he makes objections to it, which he fails to substantiate. 4 Burn E. L. 429, 8th ed.

(*g*) *Ante*, 978.

(*h*) *Ante*, 979.

(*i*) 4 Burn E. L. 487, 8th ed.

(*k*) 4 Burn E. L. 487, 8th ed.; Toller, 494. In *Penvill v. Luscombe*, 2 Jac. & W. 301 (Appendix to *Cholmondeley v. Clinton*), a plea by an administrator *durante minore etate*, to a bill for an account, of a suit by the executor for the same purpose in the spiritual court, and sentence, was allowed as a stated account, with liberty to except as to subsequent receipts, and an issue directed as to the payment of a particular sum.

tor is bound personally to exhibit \*such inventory and account, and (if the adverse party demand it) to take a corporal oath of the truth thereof, notwithstanding that, at another time, perhaps, an inventory has been exhibited *ex officio mero* of the judge, in the absence of the party, and an account given upon oath. (*l*)

And this inventory is not to be exhibited under protestation, as when an inventory is exhibited in common form, and not at the instance of the party, but absolutely, and directly, for a full, true, and perfect inventory of all and every the goods of the deceased which have come to the said accountant's hands since the death of the deceased. And if he shall exhibit a false or imperfect inventory, or account, upon his said oath, he shall be guilty of perjury. (*m*)

There has already been occasion to consider the proper form and contents of the inventory. It may here be added, that it has become usual in practice in common form business to accept a declaration, which differs from an inventory only in this, that instead of each specific article being separately enumerated, the effects are grouped *in masses*. (*n*) In contentious proceedings, however, by rule 76 (contentious business), inventories and not merely declarations are to be used, unless otherwise ordered by the judge or a registrar. (*o*)

Where the citation to account is by a legatee or next of kin, he may disprove or object against the account; (*p*) and the executor shall make due proof of every payment. (*q*) Where the sum is under 40*s.*, the payment shall be proved by his oath, if there appear no fraud by dividing greater sums into less. (*r*) But of the payment of sums to a higher amount, vouchers must also be exhibited. (*s*) And after the death of the executor or administrator, sums under 40*s.* \* shall not be allowed on the oath of his representative, for such payments can be substantiated only by him who made them. (*t*)

(*l*) 4 Burn E. L. 487, 8th ed.

(*m*) 4 Burn E. L. 488, 8th ed.

(*n*) Practice by Dodd and Brookes, 560, 561. [An executor's account rendered in a probate court for settlement is in the nature of a declaration in a writ; he can be allowed for no sum larger than is charged either in the probate court or on appeal. *Pettingill v. Pettingill*, 64 Maine, 350.]

(*o*) *Ib.*

(*p*) *Ib.*

(*q*) *Ib.*

(*r*) *Ib.*

(*s*) *Ib.* [See *Elmore v. Jaques*, 60 N. Y. 610.]

(*t*) *Ib.*; *Toller*, 492.

suing for an account in the court of probate is to gain some insight into the state of the fund previous to his proceeding in an action at common law. But a bill in equity for the discovery of assets is the more usual course adopted for that purpose. (a)

Although one creditor may have proceeded against the executor or administrator in the court of chancery, another creditor, who is no party to the chancery cause, may call on the executor to give in an inventory in the court of probate. (b) But where a creditor, or next of kin, or legatee, files a bill in chancery, and also prays an inventory in the court of probate, the latter will oblige him to make his option which court he will proceed in; because it is unjust that the executor or administrator should be harassed in both courts by the same person for the same thing. (c) Accordingly, where a creditor filed a bill in chancery for the discovery of the assets of a deceased, and then cited his executor to give an inventory in the prerogative court, having also, previously to filing the bill, cited the executor to bring in an inventory and to take pro-

ministrator, in order to protect himself from liability to account a second time for the same matter, should specify the subjects in regard to which he settles his account; and the decree of the court upon such specific subject will be conclusive against all parties unless affected by fraud. *Field v. Hitchcock*, 14 Pick. 405; *Blake v. Pegram*, 101 Mass. 592, 598, 599. To give to the settlement of an account the force and character of *res adjudicata* as to any particular item, it must appear that the item was in issue, or in some form submitted to the court for determination. *Blake v. Pegram*, 101 Mass. 592, 598, 599; *Saxton v. Chamberlain*, 6 Pick. 422; *Field v. Hitchcock*, 14 Pick. 405; *Wiggin v. Swett*, 6 Met. 194; *Leslie's Appeal*, 63 Penn. St. 355; *Sherman v. Chace*, 9 R. I. 166. As to the time within which an executor's or administrator's account may be opened and reexamined, it was held in *Child's Appeal*, 23 N. H. 225, that this could not be done after the lapse of over twenty years from the time of the rendition of the account. In this case no fraud or misconduct was alleged. But where the settlement of the account was affected with fraud, it was held that the supreme

court of probate will open it, though final and of twenty years' standing. *Davis v. Cowdin*, 20 Pick. 510. Such an account cannot, however, be opened upon a bill in equity, even for fraud or other misconduct. *Sever v. Russell*, 4 Cush. 513; *Jennison v. Hapgood*, 7 Pick. 1, 7. As to opening a final accounting of executors for reexamination, in a court of probate, to the extent of correcting specified errors, apparent on the face of the account, see *Decker v. Elmwood*, 1 Thomp. & C. (N. Y.) 48; *Mix's Appeal*, 35 Conn. 121; *Sherman v. Chace*, 9 R. I. 166; *Stetson v. Bass*, 9 Pick. 27. An executor or administrator can be discharged of his trust only by removal, resignation, or death. No discharge upon final accounting and settlement, even under a decree of a probate court, can avail him against an action to recover a debt due and owing by his testator's estate at and after the date of such final settlement. *Pollock v. Buie*, 43 Miss. 140.]

(a) *Toller*, 495.

(b) *Lloyd v. Beatniffe*, 2 Cas. temp. Lee, 561.

(c) By Sir George Lee, in *Brotherton v. Hellyer*, 2 Cas. temp. Lee, 134.

bate; Sir George Lee held that the creditor must be considered as having deserted the prerogative court where he had originally begun, and made his option to proceed in chancery; so that he could not revert to the prerogative while the suit in equity was depending. And this petition was rejected with costs. (*d*)

With respect to legatees and next of kin, they might formerly proceed against the executor or administrator in the ecclesiastical court to recover their legacies, or distributive shares under the statute. (*e*)

Suit for a legacy.

Indeed, in respect of legacies, the cognizance of them in former times belonged exclusively to the ecclesiastical jurisdiction; \* the court of chancery, till Lord Nottingham extended the system of equitable jurisprudence, administered no relief to legatees. (*f*)

But it is provided by the court of probate act (20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 23) that the court of probate, to which the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical courts has been transferred, shall entertain no suit for legacies. (*g*)

20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 23: no suits for legacies to be entertained by the court of probate.

According to the statute of distributions, the ecclesiastical court had authority to enforce the distribution of an intestate's effects. And as the act of parliament contains no negative words, equity had, in this matter also, a concurrent jurisdiction with the ordinary. (*h*)

Suit by next of kin for a distribution.

But now it is provided by the court of probate act (20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 23), that the court of probate, to which the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical court has been transferred, shall entertain no suits for the distribution of residue. (*i*)

20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 23, no suits for distribution of residues to be entertained by the court of probate. Proctor's fees.

The ecclesiastical court could not entertain a suit for proctor's fees; since they are a temporal duty, for which an action may be maintained in the temporal courts. (*k*)

(*d*) *Pearson v. Gamon*, 2 Cas. temp. Lee, 268.

(*e*) *Glen v. Webster*, 2 Cas. temp. Lee, 31.

(*f*) *Deeks v. Strutt*, 5 T. R. 692.

(*g*) See *ante*, vol. i. 292.

(*h*) *Matthews v. Newby*, 1 Vern. 133; Fonbl. Treat. Eq. bk. 4, pt. 2, ch. 3, s. 2, note (*d*).

(*i*) See *ante*, vol. i. 292. [In the case of *Cowdin v. Perry*, 11 Pick. 503, 511, 512, Shaw C. J. said: "But the question to whom and at what time, a legacy or distributive portion under a will, is to be paid by an executor, is one of which the judge of probate has no jurisdiction. Any decree directing the executor to pay or not to pay a legacy to any particular person, or

(*k*) *Pollard v. Gerard*, 1 Ld. Raym. 703; S. C. 1 Salk. 333; *Johnson v. Oxenden*, 4 Mod. 255; *Toller*, 496.

at what time a legacy should be paid, whether made upon or without notice, would be extra-judicial, and would afford the executor no justification. It is difficult to conceive how a subsequent ratification or allowance of a payment already made, can be of any greater force and effect." (See *Tenney J. in Smith v. Lambert*, 30 Maine, 137, 145.) "The object of such accounting by the executor, before the judge, is to show that he has paid according to his charges, and upon producing proof of the fact of payment, such charge is allowed. But whether such payment is rightful, is a question for which the executor himself stands responsible. To hold that an allowance of a payment in account, under such circumstances, would bar a legatee whose legacy is not yet payable, would be pressing the doctrine of *res judicata* beyond all reasonable limits." In *Williams v. Cushing*, 34 Maine, 370, 375, *Appleton J.* said: "The decree of the judge of probate upon all matters within his jurisdiction is final unless vacated by appeal. As to matters without his jurisdiction it is null and void. It is no part of his duty to settle the legal construction of a will, to determine, in case of different claimants, to whom payment should be made, or, when the amount is contested, what the sum shall be. All these questions belong to another tribunal. The executor might await the legal decision of controverted right, or he might, on his own responsibility, decide for himself." The probate court, in Massachusetts, has no authority over the distribution of the residuary legacies. The relative rights of the legatees, and other questions affecting such distribution, cannot properly be heard upon the settlement of the executor's account. For the same reason, the executor should not be allowed for their payment in his account, since the effect of

such allowance, if any effect can be given to it, would be to prejudice the rights of those who should claim a larger share than had been paid to them. The settlement of the account should determine the amount of residue subject to distribution, but not the rights or shares of those who are entitled. *Wells J. in Granger v. Bassett*, 98 Mass. 462, 469. Probate courts in Massachusetts, concurrently with the supreme judicial court, have jurisdiction to hear and determine in equity certain matters in relation to trusts created by will. *Genl. Sts. c. 100, § 22*. This jurisdiction has since been extended to the hearing and determination of all matters arising under wills, in the same manner as in relation to trusts created by will. *St. Mass. 1873, c. 224, § 3*. As to Connecticut, in *Vail's Appeal*, 37 Conn. 185, 195, *Butler C. J.* said: "The judge of probate is not a chancellor. He possesses chancery powers, but they are only such as are incidental, connected with the settlement of a particular estate, and necessary for the adjustment of equitable rights, and not to find and enforce equities, in the ordinary and loose sense in which that term has come to be used in the law. If there are trusts connected with the property, or liens upon it, or priorities enforceable in equity, — if through fraud, accident, or mistake a class of creditors or beneficiaries are entitled of right to relief as against other creditors or beneficiaries, he may marshal or distribute the assets so as to enforce or satisfy the right. But it must be right — one which a court of equity would take cognizance of and enforce, if application could be made to such court." See *Hotchkiss v. Beach*, 10 Conn. 232; *Peck v. Harrison*, 23 Conn. 118 *Ashmead's Appeal*, 27 Conn. 241.]

## \*CHAPTER THE FOURTH.

## OF EQUITABLE REMEDIES AGAINST EXECUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS IN THE COUNTY COURT.

By stat. 28 & 29 Vict. c. 99, s. 1, it is enacted that the county courts shall have and exercise all the power and authority of the high court of chancery in the suits and matters hereinafter mentioned ; that is to say, —

1. In all suits by creditors, legatees (whether specific, pecuniary, or residuary), devisees (whether in trust or otherwise), heirs-at-law, or next of kin, in which the personal or real or personal and real estate against or for an account or administration of which the demand may be made shall not exceed in amount or value the sum of five hundred pounds.

The act then proceeds to enumerate other suits and matters, and then gives the county courts equitable jurisdiction —

“In all proceedings for orders in the nature of injunctions, where the same are requisite for granting relief in any matter in which jurisdiction is given by this act to the county court, or for stay of proceedings at law to recover any debt provable under a decree for the administration of an estate made by the court to which the application for the order to stay proceedings is made.”

By section 2, “In all such suits or matters the judge of a county court shall, in addition to the powers and authorities now possessed by him, have all the powers and authorities for the purposes of this act, of a judge of the high court of chancery ; and the treasurer, registrar, and high bailiffs shall, in all matters in which the county court has jurisdiction under this act, discharge any duties which an officer \* of the court of chancery can dis-

28 & 29  
Vict. c. 99.

Jurisdiction in equity to be exercised in county courts in suits by creditors, legatees, or devisees, heirs-at-law or next of kin where the estate to be administered shall not exceed 500*l*.

and in proceeding for a stay of suit at law to recover debt provable under an administration decree.

In all suits or matters under this act, the judge and officers of the county courts to have the power and authorities of a judge



and officers  
of the  
court of  
chancery.

charge, either under the court of a judge of such court or the practice thereof, and all officers of the county courts shall in discharging such duties conform to any rules or orders to be framed as hereinafter provided."

Sect. 3. "Any one of the vice chancellors, on the application at chambers of any party to any suit or matter pending under this act, shall have power, then and there, or, if he shall think fit, after hearing a summons served upon the other party or parties, to transfer the same to the court of chancery, upon such terms, if any, as to security for costs or otherwise, as he may think fit."

Power to a  
vice chan-  
cellor to  
order  
transfer of  
suits from  
county  
court to  
court of  
chancery.

Sect. 4 gives to the city small debts court the same jurisdiction as a metropolitan county court.

Power to  
the judge  
of a county  
court to or-  
der any  
legacy, &c.  
to which  
an infant  
or person  
beyond the  
seas may  
be entitled  
to be paid  
into the  
bank of  
England,  
in accord-  
ance with  
provisions  
of s. 32 of  
36 Geo. 3,  
c. 52. (a)

By sect. 5, "Any legacy or sum of money to which any person who is an infant or absent beyond seas may be found or declared entitled by any county court in any suit or matter under this act may be ordered by the court to be paid to the accountant general of the court of chancery, in accordance with the provisions of sect. 32 of the stat. 36 Geo. 3, c. 52; and the person ordered to pay the same shall, within such time as the court shall direct, produce to the registrar of the court the certificate of the accountant general of the payment of such money; and if default be made in such payment the judge may direct a warrant of execution to issue to the high bailiff of the court, who by such warrant shall be empowered to levy or cause to be levied by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of such person a sum of money equal in amount to the sum which he was or-

dered to pay to the said accountant general and to the costs incurred by reason of such default, and the sum so levied shall be paid to and be receivable by the said accountant general under the direction of the court; and all amounts so paid or transferred into the court of chancery, with any dividends thereon, shall be paid or transferred \* to the person or persons entitled thereto, or otherwise applied for his or their benefit, on application by summons to one of the vice chancellors while sitting at chambers."

Power to  
enforce  
judgments

By sect. 8, "For the due execution of any judgment, decree, or order made under the authority of this act, or

(a) See ante, 1407.

of the rules and orders to be framed as hereinafter provided, the court shall have power to order, and the registrar upon such order shall have authority to seal and issue, and the high bailiff to execute, any writ or warrant of possession, writ or warrant of execution, or other process of execution for carrying into effect any judgment, decree, or order of the said court; and such writs, warrants, and processes shall be in the form and executed at the time and in the manner to be set forth in the rules and orders to be framed as hereinafter provided."

By sect. 9, "If during the progress of any suit or matter it shall be made to appear to the court that the subject-matter exceeds the limit in point of amount to which the jurisdiction of the county courts is hereby limited, it shall not affect the validity of any order or decree already made, but it shall be the duty of the court to direct the said suit or matter to be transferred to the court of chancery, and thereupon the said suit or matter shall proceed in such one of the vice chancellors' courts as the lord chancellor may by general order direct; and such vice chancellor shall have power to regulate the whole of the procedure in the said suit or matter when so transferred: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for any party to apply to such vice chancellor at chambers for an order authorizing and directing the suit or matter to be carried on and prosecuted in the county court, notwithstanding such excess in the amount of the limit to which jurisdiction in the matter is hereby given to the county courts; and the vice chancellor, if he shall deem it right to summon the other parties or any of them to appear before him for that purpose, after hearing such parties, or on default of the appearance of all or any of them, shall have full power to make such order."

Where amount of subject-matter of suits exceeds the limit of the jurisdiction of county court, suit may be remitted to court of chancery, &c.

\* By sect. 10, with respect to the court in which proceedings in equity shall be taken, it is enacted, "that proceedings for the administration of the assets of a deceased person shall be taken in the county court within the district of which the deceased person had his last place of abode in England, or in which the executors or administrators, or any one of them, shall have their or his place of abode." "Proceedings in any suit or other matter under this act, which are not otherwise provided for, shall be taken or instituted in the county

In which of the county courts proceedings shall be taken.

court within the district of which the defendants, or any or either of them, shall reside or carry on business."

By sect. 11, "If during the progress of a suit or matter it shall be made to appear to the court that the same could be more conveniently prosecuted in some other county court, it shall be competent for the court to transfer the same to such other county court, and thereupon the suit or matter shall proceed in such other county court."

As to  
transfer  
of suit  
from one  
county  
court to  
another.

By sect. 16, "The county court judges appointed or to be appointed by the lord chancellor from time to time to frame rules and orders for regulating the practice of the courts, and forms of proceeding therein, under stat. 19 & 20 Vict. c. 108, s. 82, shall frame the rules and orders for regulating the practice of the county courts under this act, and forms of proceedings therein, and from time to time amend such rules, orders, and forms; and such rules, orders, and forms, or amended rules, orders, and forms, certified under the hands of such judges or of any three or more of them, shall be submitted to the lord chancellor, who may allow or disallow or alter the same, and so from time to time; and the rules, orders, and forms, or amended rules, orders, and forms, so allowed or altered, shall, from a day to be named by the lord chancellor, be in force in every county court." (b)

Power to  
frame rules  
and orders  
under 19 &  
20 Vict.  
c. 108.

(b) Orders and rules have been framed by the above mentioned county court judges in pursuance of this section, and have been approved by the lord chancellor. They may be found in the 11 Jur. N. S. 369 *et seq.*, and the same work (p. 367) contains the following abstract of them. The equivalent to a suit in chancery is to be called a plaint in equity, and forms of plaints in the several matters to which the act extends are given, being, in fact, nearly identical with the common form of bills now used in chancery practice. The plaint may be filed by a plaintiff in person, or by his attorney. It is not required to be printed, but as many copies as there are defendants to be brought before the court must be delivered to the registrar. The defendants are to be brought before the court by summons, to be served by the bailiff within seven days, or in the case of a defendant out of the jurisdiction, within such time and in such manner as the court shall direct. The summons is to be returnable not less than one month, nor more than three months, after the filing of the plaint. If the defendant, before the return day of the summons, signs an admission of the truth of the allegations in the plaint and submits to the judgment of the court, the plaintiff can only claim the costs then already incurred, and the further costs of attending and obtaining the decree or order to be made on such admission. The defendant may, within eight days after the service of the summons, by writing, disclaim any interest, or deny any statement in the plaint, or raise any question of law on the statements in the plaint, without admitting the truth thereof, or aver new matter. With reference to this period of eight days, it is to be observed that the court

\* By sect. 17, the said county court judges are to frame a scale of costs and charges to be paid to counsel and attorneys  
 \* with respect to all proceedings authorized to be taken by the act.

Scale of costs to be framed by the judges.

By sect. 18, "If any party in a suit or matter under this act shall be dissatisfied with the determination or direction of a judge of a county court on any matter of law or equity, or on the admission or rejection of any evidence, such party may appeal from the same to the vice chancellor authorized as aforesaid, provided that such party shall, within thirty days after such determination or direction, give notice of such appeal to the other party or his attorney, and also deposit with the registrar of the county court the sum of ten pounds as security for the costs of the appeal; and the said court of appeal may make

Parties aggrieved may appeal.

has, under the 17th rule of the 28th order, a general power to enlarge or abridge the prescribed term for taking any step. The defendant may proceed in person, or by attorney. The 3d order contains rules as to evidence, the admission and production of documents. Witnesses are in general to be examined orally, but affidavits may be used, upon notice, if not objected to; and, by order of the court, witnesses within the jurisdiction of another court may be examined by the registrar of such other court. It is unnecessary to state the effect of the provisions with respect to the hearing and decree. When the intervention of a conveyancing counsel is required, the court names the counsel. In taking accounts and making inquiries, the registrar performs the duties and has the powers of a chief clerk. Creditors, after advertisement, are to send in their claims, and any securities held by them, but are not required to attend or prove, unless served with notice so to do; and provision is made for admitting claims after the appointed time. Provisions are made with respect to — absent parties; the registrar's certificate; final decree; revivor and supplement; proceedings under the fifth, sixth, and eighth heads of jurisdiction above mentioned; *ex parte* applications; amendments; affidavits; rehearing, and enforce-

ment of decrees and orders, which need not be abstracted here. The 17th order relates to funds in court; money ordered to be paid into court is to be received by the treasurer, who is to give a receipt for it, and stock, shares, and other securities, directed to be received in court, are to be transferred into the names of the registrar and treasurer. Investments in consols may be ordered in the names of the treasurer and registrar, either alone or jointly, with the name of the person immediately entitled to the interest of the fund. Sums under 30*l.* may be invested in the post office savings bank. Provision is made for a married woman's equity to a settlement out of a fund exceeding 200*l.* or 10*l.* per annum. The 18th order provides for the transfer of the proceedings to the court of chancery, when the value of the subject-matter appears to exceed the prescribed limit. The 19th order regulates appeals. Notice of appeal is not to operate as a stay of proceedings, unless the judge from or the judge to whom the appeal is made shall so direct. The case for the appeal is to be prepared by the appellant, and settled by the judge. The 20th and subsequent orders relate to the duties of the registrar, of the high bailiff, and of receiver, and to minor points of practice.

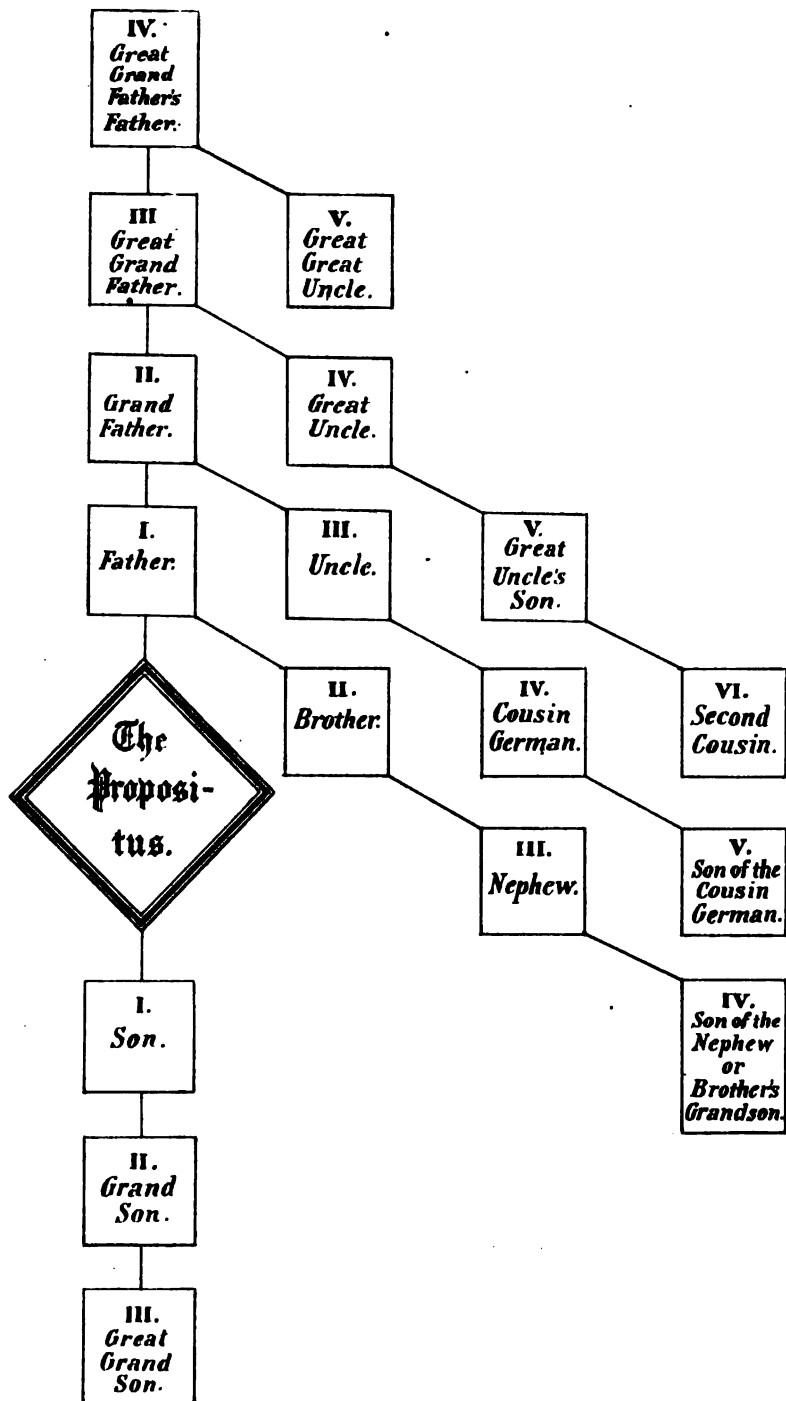
such final or other decree or order as it shall think fit, and may also make such order with respect to the costs of the said appeal as such court may think proper ; and such orders shall be final. Provided, that nothing herein contained shall authorize any party to appeal against any decision of a county court, given upon any question as to \* the value of any real or personal property, for the purpose of determining the question of the jurisdiction of the court under this act, nor to appeal against the decision of a county court on the ground that the proceedings might or should have been taken in any other county court." (c)

Commence- By sect. 21, the provisions of this act shall come  
ment of  
act. into operation on the 1st of October, 1865.

(c) Where the judge of a county court must be decided by way of appeal in the  
has dismissed a bill on the ground of want presence of both parties. Cox v. Slater,  
of jurisdiction, the court will not interfere 12 Jur. N. S. 542.  
on an *ex parte* application. The question

[2069]

# TABLE OF CONSANGUINITY.





# INDEX.

[THE NUMBERS REFER TO THE FIGURES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGES.]

## ABATEMENT,

- of suit,
  - by death of plaintiff, 890 *et seq.*
    - in equity, 890.
      - one of several plaintiffs executors, 1910.
    - at law, 890 *et seq.*
  - by death of defendant, 1998, 2013.
  - practice in England and Massachusetts, to suggest on record the death of a party to the suit, and then proceed with the action, 1883 note (*q*<sup>1</sup>).
  - death of either party between service of writ and time of entry, 1883 note (*q*<sup>1</sup>).
  - time for citing representative of a deceased defendant, 1883 note (*q*<sup>1</sup>).
- of legacy, 1359 *et seq.*
  - general legatees must abate before specific, 1359.
    - but a residuary legatee cannot call on them to abate, 1359.
    - case where the estate becomes insufficient by *devastavit* of executor, 1362.
  - executor cannot give his own legacy a preference, 1359.
  - priority among general legatees of purchasers above volunteers, 1364-1366.
    - what legatees are regarded as purchasers, 1366.
    - in what other cases such priority is allowable, 1368-1370.
    - when legacy intended for support and education of child, 1368 note (*j*).
    - abatement proportionably, 1370 note (*r*).
- of specific legacies, 1370, 1371 note (*a*).
  - of legacies in the nature of specific legacies, 1370.
  - of devises of the real estate, 1371, 1696, 1717.

## ABROAD,

- will made abroad, or of property there, 360 *et seq.* See tit. *Foreigner*.
- letters of administration of property abroad, or where next of kin is abroad, 413.



## ABSENCE,

of executor or administrator,

*administrator durante absentia*, 502 *et seq.*

transfer of stock, &c. standing in his name, 13 & 14 Vict. c. 60, and  
15 & 16 Vict. c. 55, 2055, 2056.

of legatee, executor may pay legacy into the bank under 36 Geo. 3, c. 52,  
1407, 1578.

## ABSOLUTE ESTATE,

limitation over after gift of, void, 1267 and note (*u*).

in personalty is given by terms which create an estate tail in realty, 1106  
note (*w*).

ACCELERATION OF ESTATE, 1239 note (*a*).

## ACCIDENT,

death caused by action on behalf of family of deceased, 796-798.

## ACCOUNT,

bill for, against executor, 2006. See tit. *Bill in Equity*.

where testator directed that executor should not be compelled to ac-  
count, 2006, 2007.

notwithstanding account in spiritual court, 2007.

if there are several executors, and some admit assets, an account may  
be decreed against the rest, 2050 note (*n*).

in the probate court, 2057, 2058.

must be rendered in the probate court, 2057 note (*b*).

object, practice, and effect of accounting, 2060 note (*z*).

manner of stating account intended to be final, 2060 note (*z*).

who may compel executors to render, 2058, 2059.

practice as to, 2059 *et seq.*

form, 2059 note (*n*).

how investigated, 2060.

how allowed, 2061.

by administrator whose letters have been revoked, 594 note (*n*).

whether citation to account necessary before suit on bond for not ac-  
counting, 540 note (*e*).

action of,

lay not for executor at common law, 786.

nor against him, 1931.

executor's accounts, 1841 *et seq.* See tit. *Allowances*.

he shall account for all profits, 1841 and note (*k*), 1842 notes (*m*)  
and (*o*).

of a lease, 1841.

of the trade of testator, 1841.

of the purchase of legacies, 1843 note (*s*).

of compounding debts or mortgages, 1843.

of a sale, &c. to himself, 1842 note (*q*).

of the purchase of the equity of redemption of an estate in mort-  
gage to the testator, 1843.

of private speculations, 1843.

**ACCOUNT** — *continued.*

executor shall account for all profits — *continued.*

on final settlement, executor or administrator must account for all the property specified in the inventory, 2060 note (z).

power of probate court to correct mistakes in account, 2060 note (z).

to correct account where part of the estate has been taken

by title paramount after settlement, 2060 note (z).

in what cases charged with interest, 1843-1852 and notes.

how computed, 1845-1852.

decree on executor's account, how far conclusive, 2060, 2061 note (z).

final, to be made in forum of original administration, 362 note (u).

mistake of probate court in, how corrected, 2060 note (z); Judge of Probate *v.* Lane, 51 N. H. 342; Stark *v.* Gamble, 43 N. H. 467;

Clark *v.* Clay, 31 N. H. 393.

within what time account may be opened, 2060 note (z).

**ACCOUNT STATED,**

executor may declare on, as executor, 878.

whether of money due to *testator*, or to *him as an executor*, 878, 879.

executor may be sued on, as executor, 1772, 1940.

**ACCRUING SHARES.** See tit. *Lapsed Legacies.*

whether they go to survivor with the original shares, 1217 and notes (m<sup>1</sup>) and (o).

**ACCUMULATIVE LEGACIES,**

doctrine of, 1289 *et seq.* See tit. *Cumulative Legacies.*

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT,**

of signature by testator, without showing who wrote it, 83.

what sufficient acknowledgment of testator's signature to witnesses, 87, 88 note (n).

of his signature by witness, not sufficient attestation, 91 and note (x), 95 and note (q).

whether sufficient attestation if witnesses sign before testator signs, 91 note (x).

**ACTION.** See tit. *Remedies, Revivor of Suits, Judgments.*

what rights of action pass to an executor, &c., 785 *et seq.*

to recover on a policy of insurance on life of deceased, 785 note (c).

how far executor represents testator in his contracts, 786.

exceptions, 845, 846.

joint choses in action, 843.

choses in action assigned by deceased, 843.

ancient rule, *actio personalis moritur cum persona*, 789, 790.

alteration of the rule, 790-792.

actions for torts to the person do not survive, 793.

actions which by law survive to or against executor or administrator in Massachusetts and other American States, 785 note (c), 791 note (z), 792 note (d), 793 notes (g<sup>1</sup>), (g<sup>2</sup>), (g<sup>3</sup>), (g<sup>4</sup>), and (i), 796 notes (a<sup>1</sup>), (a<sup>2</sup>), 1734 note (m<sup>1</sup>).

ACTION — *continued.*

what rights of action pass to an executor — *continued.*

actions for personal injuries by defects in highways, negligence on railroads, &c. 793 note (*g*<sup>1</sup>).

as to actions for libel, slander, malicious prosecution, &c. 793 notes (*g*<sup>2</sup>) and (*g*<sup>3</sup>), 796 note (*a*<sup>1</sup>), 1734 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).

deceit in sale of real or personal property, 793 note (*g*<sup>4</sup>), 1734 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).

seduction, or crim. con. 793 note (*g*<sup>4</sup>).

breach of promise of marriage, 800 note (*l*).

malpractice by physicians, 801 note (*l*<sup>1</sup>), 1734 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).

neglect by attorney, 801 note (*l*<sup>1</sup>), 1734 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).

any action may be brought against executor or administrator which would survive to him, 1734 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).

action against any person causing the death of the testator by neglect, stat. 9 & 10 Vict. c. 93, 796–798.

stat. 27 & 28 Vict. c. 95, s. 1, 798.

as to actions at common law in the American States for acts causing the death of the deceased, 796 note (*a*<sup>1</sup>).

as to the remedy given by statute, 797 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

in some states by indictment, in others by civil action for damages, 797 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

whether rights of action so conferred can be enforced beyond the bounds of the state, 797 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

as to the matters to be considered in estimating the damages in such cases, 797 notes (*d*) and (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

remedy fails if death caused by negligence, or contributory negligence, of deceased, 797 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

for torts to the freehold or chattels real, 794–796.

stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, 795.

actions *ex quasi contractu*, 798, 799.

in actions on contracts, how far rule applies, 800 *et seq.*

where the breach was an injury to the person of testator, 800, 801. to a third person, 801.

upon covenants respecting land, 801–808. See tit. *Covenant*.

contracts respecting land not under seal, 804.

covenants by executor of reversioner for years, 808.

choses in action of wife, 846 *et seq.* See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

what actions accrue to executor after testator's death, 786 note (*c*), 796 note (*a*<sup>1</sup>), 876 *et seq.*

for torts done in executor's time, 876.

executor or administrator may add count for conversion after death, to one for conversion before death of testator or intestate, 877 note (*d*).

whether he has been in actual possession or not, 877.

he may sue either as executor or individually, 877 and note (*k*).

on contracts made with executor, 878 and note (*a*<sup>1</sup>).

ACTION—*continued.*

what actions accrue to executor after testator's death — *continued.*

he may sue as executor,

on an account stated, 878.

for money lent, 879.

for money had and received, 879.

for money paid, 879.

for goods sold and delivered, 879, 881 note (*g*).

for materials found, 879.

for work and labor, 879.

mode of declaring, 881 note (*g*).

as indorsee or holder of a bill, 880.

as payee of a note, 880.

on note payable to deceased or bearer, 880 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

whenever the money recovered will be assets, 881.

but *all* the executors cannot sue on a contract made with *one*, notwithstanding the money recovered will be assets, 881.

not on bond to himself, 882.

to recover back money the payment of which is a *devastavit*, 882.

on a judgment, 883.

suits accruing in executor's time on contracts with testator, 883.

with testator and *his assigns*, 884.

suits accruing in executor's time by remainder, 885.

by condition, 885.

when the executor of the pledgor may redeem, 886.

what rights of action survive *against* an executor or administrator, 1721 *et seq.* See tit. *Remedies, Executor.*

in matters of contract, 1721–1728.

to do a collateral act, 1722.

though not named, 1723.

accruing after testator's death, 1723.

where contract was personal to testator, 1724–1726.

in matters of tort, 1728 *et seq.*

rule, *actio personalis moritur cum personâ*, 1728, 1729.

examples of the rule, 1729.

modification of the rule by 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, 1734.

the executor may, in many cases, be made liable by suing him in form *ex contractu*, 1730–1734.

against executor, &c. of rector, for dilapidations, 1735–1739.

for breaches of trust, 1739.

on debts of record, 1740.

on joint contracts, 1740 *et seq.*

liability of executor in equity, 1741–1748.

of deceased shareholders in public companies, 1748.

on covenants concerning the realty, 1749, 1750.

on contracts between landlord and tenant, 1750.

in covenant, 1751.

**ACTION** — *continued.*

what rights of action survive *against* an executor or administrator — *continued.*

on contracts between landlord and tenant — *continued.*

in debt, 1752.

personal liability of executor,

for rent in his own time, 1752–1759.

for repairs, 1759.

for continuing to occupy premises held by testator from year to year, 1760.

for the occupation by co-executor of lands demised for years, but not by deed, 1761.

liability of executor for party walls, 1761.

of executor of assignee of insolvent debtor for breaches of covenant in a lease granted to the insolvent, 1761.

as to apprentices, 1765, 1766.

as to a poor's rate and a church rate, 1766, 1767.

as to debts of husband and wife, 1767, 1768.

as to an action for work and labor, with a view to a legacy, 1768.

on continuing guaranty of testator, 1770.

fines for admission to copyhold lands, &c. 1769.

*sci. fa.* to executor of judge to certify a bill of exceptions, 1769.

*certiorari* to executor of coroner or justice to certify a record, 1769.

against executor, &c. in respect of his own contracts, 1771–1786.

liability as executor, 1771–1776.

personally, 1776–1778.

on a *devastavit*. See *tit. Devastavit*.

does not lie at law against an executor for a legacy, 1931–1933.

except in consideration of forbearance, 1778, 1779.

or for a specific legacy after assent, 1933.

or where he ceases to hold the legacy as executor, 1934.

nor for a distributive share under the statute, 1934.

lies for legacy in some of the American States without express promise, 1931 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

for legacy or annuity charged on estate devised, against devisee, 1931 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

against tertenants who purchased estate with notice, 1931 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

what must be alleged in action for, 1931 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

equity furnishes more complete remedy in such cases, 1931 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

**ACTS.** See *tit. Declarations*.

of testator, evidence of, on issue of his sanity, to what extent admissible, 360 note (*u*).

**ADDITIONAL**

legacies. See *tit. Substituted Legacies*.

**ADEMPMENT,**

implied revocation of will by, 204.

cannot be, if executor appointed, 204.

**ADEMPMENT OF LEGACIES,**

- principles on which ademption is founded, 1332 note (m).
- payment, substitution, or satisfaction, 1332 note (m).
- takes effect solely from act or will of testator, 1332 note (m).
- gift of house and land does not adeem pecuniary legacy, 1335 note (x).
- evidence of declarations of testator at time of advancing or paying money tending to show intent, 1337 note (g).
- of specific legacies,
  - of a debt, 1321-1324, 1323 note (s), 1325 note (e).
  - of stock, 1324-1326, 1323 note (s), 1324 note (u).
  - of partnership share, 1326.
  - of goods, 1326.
    - not by pawning, 1326.
    - when by removal, 1326, 1327.
  - of terms for years, 1328-1330.
    - by surrender and taking new lease, 1328.
- of demonstrative legacies, 1320.
- intention, 1323, note (s).
- of legacies given as portions, 1332 and note (l), 1333 note (o).
  - given for specific purpose accomplished during life of testator, 1332 note (k<sup>1</sup>).
  - by a testator *in loco parentis*, 1338.
- pro tanto*, 1328 note (l<sup>1</sup>).
- revival of adeemed legacy by republication of will, 1331, 1332.
- as to wills made after January 1, 1838, 1330.
- no ademption where interest in stock, fund, or debt is changed by statute or operation of law, 1325 note (b), 1335 note (b).

**ADMINISTRATION.** See tit. *Administrator, Court of Probate.*

**ORIGIN OF, 401 *et seq.***

- Ancient prerogative of the crown, 401.
  - transferred to the prelates, 401.
  - by stat. Westminster 2, ordinary bound to pay debts of intestate, 402, 403.
  - by 31 Edw. 3, stat. 1, administration to be granted to next friends, 403.
  - by probate act the jurisdiction of ecclesiastical courts to grant administration is transferred to the court of probate, 404.
- settlement of estates among parties interested without administration, 680 note (e).
  - settlement out of court after administration, whether compliance with bond, 630 note (e).
- of estate undisposed of by will, 650 note (b).
- necessary to confer title on distributees, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- GRANT OF LETTERS,**
  - limitation of time for taking original, 320 note (x), 404 note (k<sup>1</sup>), 452 note (l).
  - proof of death and intestacy to be made, 401 note (a), 409 note (a).

ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*GRANT OF LETTERS — *continued.*

only jurisdiction is over estate of person deceased, 409 note (a).  
 effect of granting administration upon estate of living person, under belief that he was dead, 409 note (a).  
 amount of estate necessary to give original jurisdiction, 404 note (i).

penalty by stat. 55 Geo. 3, for acting without letters, 972.

*in which of the spiritual courts it was to be obtained under the old law,* 289, 290, 404.

archbishop's prerogative, by reason of *bona notabilia*, 404. See tit. *Bona notabilia*.

*To whom general administration is to be granted*, 409 *et seq.*, and order in which parties are entitled to, in several states, 416 note (j).

right to administer is personal, 417 note (o).

based upon interest, 418 note (b), 436 note (k).

objection to granting, cannot be taken by a stranger, 418 note (b).

Husband's right to be his wife's administrator, 409–411 and notes.

assignment of right, 410 note (b), 417 note (o).

where the marriage was voidable, 410.

*secus*, where it was void, 411.

wife dying after a protection order, 411.

after dissolution of marriage, 411, note (j).

husband convicted of bigamy, 411.

husband dying before he obtains administration, 411–413.

husband and wife drowned in the same ship, 414.

when controlled by will of wife, 414, 415.

where wife is executrix of another, 415.

Widow's right to be husband's administratrix, 416.

the ordinary might grant to her or next of kin, or to them jointly, 416 and note (j).

both jointly or both separately, 416 and note (j).

the election of the court is in favor of the widow, 417.

divorced *a mensâ et thoro*, 418.

second wife's right after divorce by foreign law, 418.

renunciation of her rights by widow, 416 note (j), 417 note (o).

whether she may nominate another in her place, 416 note (j), 417 note (o).

form of renunciation, 416 note (j), 417 note (o).

joining a stranger with widow, 416 note (j).

when she is unsuitable, effect, 417 note (g).

Right of next of kin, 418 *et seq.* See tit. *Next of Kin*.

who are next of kin, 418–424.

relations by mother's side equally entitled with those of father's, 422.

ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*GRANT OF LETTERS — *continued.*

*To whom general administration is to be granted — continued.*

Right of next of kin — *continued.*

half blood not excluded, 422.

primogeniture gives no preference, 422.

females equally entitled with males, 424.

in some states preference is given to males,  
416 note (j), 424 note (b).

and to unmarried females over those  
married, 424 note (b).

effect of residence, 427 note (q<sup>a</sup>).

no objection to a daughter that she is a  
nun in a convent, 449 note (b).

grant of letters, after period of limitation, is  
void, 452 note (i).

parties contesting must proceed *pari passu*, 425.

*secus*, where administration already obtained by one,  
584.

several next of kin in equal degrees, 425 *et seq.*

administration granted to him whom the majority of in-  
terests desire, 426 and note (n).

exception as to half blood, 426, 427 note (p).

a man used to business preferred, 427.

primogeniture, 427.

a son preferred to a daughter, 427.

next of kin also a creditor, 427.

next of kin a bankrupt, 427.

the court prefers a sole administration, 428.

never enforces a joint one, 428.

has power to appoint additional administrator,  
428 note (y).

when an administrator is once appointed, another of the  
same degree cannot come in, 428.

where a party entitled to administration is resident abroad,  
427 note (q<sup>a</sup>), 428.

next of kin excluded when they have no interest, 436 and  
note (m).

next of kin dying before administration granted, his repre-  
sentative entitled, 437.

but payment to next of kin no answer to an action by  
his representative as administrator, 437.

next of kin cannot be compelled to take out letters, though  
he has administered, 438.

administration granted to attorney of next of kin, 438.

what is sufficient authority to entitle the attorney to  
apply, 438 note (u). See *tit. Attorney*.



ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*GRANT OF LETTERS — *continued.*

*To whom general administration is to be granted — continued.*

Right of next of kin — *continued.*

next of kin renouncing, may retract, 453.

respect paid to recommendation of next of kin, when they decline to administer, 426 note (n).

to a creditor, 440 *et seq.*

as to the circumstances under which a creditor may administer in Massachusetts, &c. 440 note (g).

citation of next of kin, 440, 441.

one creditor preferred to another on terms, 442.

first applicant among creditors entitled in Louisiana, 442 note (u).

affidavit of amount of property, 442.

creditor a mortgagee, 442.

who is to be considered a creditor, 443, 444 note (h).

debt barred by the statute of limitations, 442 and note (a).

next of kin cannot oust him when appointed, 444.

when appointed he may oppose an interest or contest will, 444.

to a debtor, 1314.

when in execution, 1316.

to a person without interest, 445.

letters *ad colligendum*, 445.

the court of probate may appoint an administrator not otherwise entitled,

where a person shall die intestate, or without an executor willing and competent to take probate, 446.

or where the executor is resident out of the United Kingdom, 446.

such appointment to appear in the oath of the administrator and administration letters and bond, 446, 447.

citation of party having prior right,

requisite (or consent) before administration granted to another, 440 note (k), 448.

where several are equally entitled to administration, either may be appointed without citing the others, 448 note (y).

how citations are to be served, 448.

of property out of this country, 429.

of the effects of a foreigner, 429, 430, 1515, 1516.

to a person domiciled out of this country of property here, 430, 1516, 1517.

foreign consuls may administer to estates of foreigners dying here, 431.

ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*GRANT OF LETTERS — *continued.*

*To whom general administration is to be granted — continued.*

citation of party having prior right — *continued.*

rights and liabilities of foreign administrators, 431-433, 1663, 1664.

of the effects of a bastard, 433.

of the effects of a felon or person without kindred, 435.

where the queen is entitled, administration to be granted to the solicitor of the treasury, 15 Vict. c. 3, 434.

*Mandamus* to compel grant, 435.

what is sufficient proof of, 1889, 1890.

*Of the mode of granting letters*, 451 *et seq.*

by what instrument, 452.

form, 452, and notes (s) and (s<sup>1</sup>).

time of granting, 452, 453.

after three years, 452.

administrator's oath, 453.

affidavit of the value of the effects, 454.

renunciation, when it may be retracted, 453.

notice of appointment, how may be proved, 448 note (y<sup>1</sup>).

regularity and sufficiency of appointment of administrator cannot be impeached collaterally, 550 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

## WITH THE WILL ANNEXED.

statute provisions respecting the appointment of, in Massachusetts and New York, 462 note (e).

when necessary, 461.

will not be granted until the executor's refusal of probate has been recorded, 281, 461 note (b).

instances of *quasi* intestacy, 461.

if there are several executors, all must renounce before it can be granted, 283 note (a).

cases not within the statute of administration, 462.

after the executor has administered, 277, 471.

of a *feme covert*, how obtained, 56 note (l).

when granted, a legatee and next of kin may call on the administrator to prove will in solemn form, 337.

to whom to be granted, 462-468.

in Massachusetts, 463 note (g).

in Pennsylvania, 463 note (i).

a person entitled cannot be compelled to take, though he has intermeddled with the estate, 438.

to him who has the greatest interest, 462.

residuary legatee preferred to next of kin, 462, 463.

even where there is no residue, 463.

or he is only a trustee, 463.

his representative has the same right, 464.

ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*WITH THE WILL ANNEXED — *continued.*

no *mandamus* lies to compel the grant, 465.

but where the same person is next of kin and residuary legatee, and the executors renounce, administration *cum testamento annexo* must be granted, 465 note (y).

to next of kin, if there is no residuary legatee, or he declines, 466.

he may be excluded if he has no interest, 466.

to a legatee or creditor, if next of kin declines, 466, 467.

to a legatee for life rather than to a legatee substituted, 466 note (e).

what citations are necessary, 467.

when the executor resides abroad, administration will be granted to his attorney, 468. See tit. *Attorney*.

the letter of an attorney may be revoked after administration granted and the executor obtain probate, 468.

consequence of the return of the executor, 468, 469.

not to the executor, 469.

can be granted only in court of county where letters testamentary were granted, 470 note (i').

the administrator cannot commence an action before letters, 405 and note (n).

is privy to the original executor, in what respect, 462 note (c), 915 note (e), 916 note (g').

as to trusts annexed to the office of executor by the will, 462 notes (c) and (d).

as to power over undisposed of property, 462 note (d).

is controlled by the provisions of law governing other administrators, except where will orders otherwise, 470 note (i').

form of letters, 470.

as to the bond of such administrator, 470 note (i').

responsibility of special administrator when appointed administrator with the will annexed, 470 note (i').

of the sureties on his bond, 524 note (z).

whether can administer estate undisposed of by the will, 650 note (b).

## DE BONIS NON, 470.

amount of estate necessary to this kind of administration, 404 note (k'), 473 (k').

time of granting not limited in Massachusetts, 452 note (i), 473, note (k').

with the will annexed,

where sole or surviving executor dies after probate, intestate, 471.

not where sole executor dies without proving, 471.

where one alone of several executors proves and dies, 472.

who is entitled to, 472, 473.

ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*DE BONIS NON — *continued.*with the will annexed — *continued.*

not necessary where there is an administration *durante minoritate* of the executor of an executor, 473.

upon the death of an administrator, 473.

of one of several, 474.

of a surviving or sole administrator, 474.

office must have become vacant before such administration can be granted, 474 note (o).

who is entitled to, 474-477.

in Massachusetts, 474 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

citation of next of kin before grant of, 477, 478.

such administrator is privy to the original administrator, in what respect, 462 note (c), 494 note (u), 915 note (e), 916 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

must be appointed in court where original administration was granted, 473 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

form of grant, 478.

when administrator entitled to rent reserved on an underlease by executor, 648, 915.

may revive a decree obtained by former executor, &c. 899.

estate of administrator *de bonis non*, 915 *et seq.* See tit. *Estate.*

liability of such administrator to pay out of funds in his hands, received by him on sale of real estate of deceased, disbursements of the executor beyond funds in his hands, when such executor dies before reimbursing himself, 478 note (e<sup>1</sup>).

in assumpsit by, the promise may be laid to first administrator, 1871.

power of administrator *de bonis non*, 961.

to sue the executor of the deceased administrator, on the bond to the ordinary, 539 and note (b).

by statute to call former administrator to account after his removal, 539 note (b).

may maintain all process for that purpose, and recover damages, 539 note (b).

may receive ascertained balance of account from former administrator, 539 note (b).

may have action against sureties of removed executor or administrator to recover balance of account admitted or proved due, 539 note (b).

in some states held otherwise where there is no statute upon the subject, 539 note (b).

right to take unadministered estate, 539 note (b).

whether may sue former administrator or his representatives for delinquencies and *devastavit*, 539 note (b).

he cannot distrain for rent reserved to executor of administrator, 932.

ADMINISTRATION — *continued*.DE BONIS NON — *continued*.

title of, how proved, 1889.

stamp on exemplification of letters, 1889.

DURANTE MINORITATE, 479 *et seq.*

when necessary, 479.

not where there are executors of full age, although one is under age, 479 and note (*f*).

minor a foreigner, 484.

to whom it must be granted, 481–484.

not within stat. 21 Hen. 8, c. 5, 480.

no *mandamus* lies to grant it to a particular person, 480.

to the guardian, 481–484.

sometimes excluded, 482.

court not bound by choice of the minor, 482.

when the widow is *non compos* and son a minor, 484.

when it determines, 485, 486.

*scire facias*, who shall then have, 486, 487.

proceedings substituted for *scire facias*, by stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 76, 487 note (*m*), 498 *et seq.*

whether suits in equity are put an end to, 487.

journeys accounts by the infant, 488, 1883.

effect on execution issued by administrator, 488.

what acts the administrator *durante*, &c. can do, 488–491.

in an action by him the minority must be averred, 491.

*secus* in an action against him, 492.

pleas by an administrator *durante*, &c. 492.

liability of administrator after office determined, 492–494.

to creditors, 493.

to a subsequent administrator, 493.

to infant when of age, 494.

to deliver an inventory, 979.

liability of infant on judgment against administrator, 494 and note (*u*), 495.

the executor during whose nonage such administrator has been appointed is privy to him, 494 note (*u*).

he is bound by a judgment rendered against such administrator and may take advantage of judgments rendered in his favor, 494 note (*u*).

of executor of executor, 255 note (*d*), 495.

## PENDENTE LITE, 495.

the court of probate has power to grant, 495.

also receivers of real estate, 496.

may require security from the receiver of real estate, 496, 497.

when such a grant may be made, 497.

in Massachusetts, 496 note (*b*).

administrator's duties, 496 note (*b*).

ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*PENDENTE LITE — *continued.*

- bond required of, 496 note (b).
- by authority of judge of probate may collect rents of real estate, and make repairs thereon, in certain cases, 496 note (b).
- may by leave of probate court pay funeral expenses and expenses of last sickness, 496 note (b).
- not liable to an action, 496 note (b).
- power ceases upon grant of letters testamentary or with the suit, &c. 496 note (b), 499 note (q).
- power, and duties of, and when his authority ceases, in Pennsylvania, 499 note (q).
- letters of general administration invalid if granted during pendency of controversy respecting probate of will, 496 note (b).
- whether it will be granted pending a suit in a foreign court to a person appointed by that court, 480 note (i).
- of what the court must be satisfied before granting, 497.
- will appoint an administrator in all cases in which the court of chancery appoints a receiver, 497.
- the administrator must be an indifferent person, 497 and note (i).
- is not to be considered the mere nominee of the parties, 498.
- his power, 498, 499 note (q).
- has no business to construe the will, 499 note (s).
- he is an officer of the court, 499 note (q).
- a receiver would be appointed by the court of chancery, notwithstanding an administration *pendente lite* might be also obtained, 499-502, 499 note (v).
- administrator not liable to interest upon a balance in his hands during suit, 499.
- must deliver an inventory, although a bill for a discovery has been filed against him in chancery by another party, 980, 2059.
- remuneration to administrators and receivers, 498.
- lis pendens* includes an appeal to the house of lords, 496.

DURANTE ABSENTIA, 502 *et seq.*

- at common law before probate, 502.
- after probate or letters, &c. by stat. 38 Geo. 3, 503 *et seq.*, 503 note (p).
- the statute applies where executor is out of reach of process, 507.
- to executors only, 503 note (p).
- only where there are proceedings in chancery, 508.
- but this remedied by stat. 21 & 22 Vict. c. 95, s. 18, 508.
- form of affidavit and of letters of administration, 504, 505.
- effect of return of executor, 468, 509.
- effect of death of executor, 509.
- how the administrator must declare, 512.
- admissions of executor not evidence against administrator, 512.
- power of administrator, 962.

ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*TEMPORARY AND LIMITED ADMINISTRATIONS, 479 *et seq.*

not to be granted without consent or citation of persons entitled to general grant, 479.

a person entitled to general grant not to take a limited one, 479.

*cum testamento anneo*, 513.

when executor becomes *non compos*, 238, 517.

in case of executor limited as to time, 250, 513.

limited till a will be transmitted to England, 513.

limited to transfer into the name of accountant general, 515.

limited till arrival of executors, 515.

limited to answer a suit in chancery, 516.

limited till a lost will, the contents of which are not known, is found, 517.

limited during the incapacity of executor or administrator, or next of kin, 517-519.

granted though not found lunatic by inquisition, 517.

limited to a particular subject, 520.

to assign a trust term, 520.

to a particular legacy, 521.

limited to substantiate proceedings in equity, 522-524.

power of such administrator, 524.

limited to a particular place, 527.

*caterorum* representation, 525.

citation of party entitled to general grant, 525, 526.

administrator regularly appointed succeeds to all the rights of special administrator, 524 note (z).

as to the effect on sureties on bond of special administrator, 524 note (z).

BOND TO THE ORDINARY, 529 *et seq.* See tit. *Bond.*

stat. of 22 & 23 Car. 2, 529.

conditions of bond, 529, 530.

in Massachusetts and other states, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).

repealed by court of probate act, 530, 531.

persons to whom administration shall be granted under probate act shall give bond to the judge, 531.

bond with sureties generally required of both executors and administrators in the American States, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>), 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>). See tit. *Bond.*

office not filled until bond is given, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).

penalty on bond, 531.

power of court to assign bond, 532.

form of bond, 532, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).

— for administrator with will annexed, 532 note (e<sup>1</sup>).

*de bonis non*, 532 note (e<sup>1</sup>).

in what name taken, in American States, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).

ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*

BOND TO THE ORDINARY — *continued.*

form of bond — *continued.*

as to effect of deviation from prescribed form, 533 note (c<sup>3</sup>),  
546 note (o).

effect of alteration of, without knowledge of sureties, 533 note  
(c<sup>3</sup>).

joint and several bond by several administrators, 533 note (c<sup>3</sup>).  
as to the liability of principals and sureties on such bonds,  
533 note (c<sup>3</sup>).

administration granted without bond or the requisite number  
of sureties, 533 note (c<sup>3</sup>).

practice under the old law, 533 *et seq.*

application to court to put the bond in suit, 534–538.

whether proceedings on the bond could be had in a court of equity,  
538.

who were entitled to sue on, 538 and notes.

in the American States, 533 note (c<sup>3</sup>), 534 notes (g<sup>1</sup>) and  
(g<sup>2</sup>), 536 note (l). See tit. *Bond*.

might be put in suit by administrator *de bonis non* against the ex-  
ecutor of deceased administrator, 539.

but it did not rank as a specialty debt due to him, 537.

what is a breach of the condition of the bond under statute of  
Charles, 539–541.

how many breaches may be assigned, 543.

defendant cannot plead payment of money into court as to  
some of the breaches and performance as to the rest, 543  
note (l).

what is a breach of the condition of a bond under the new law, 541,  
540 note (g).

how far equity will relieve against forfeiture, 543.

by administrator *pendente lite*, 544.

when administrator is out of England, 544.

when minor comes of age, 544.

justification of sureties to, 545.

sureties may be dispensed with under new law, 544.

separate bonds not allowed, 546.

otherwise in Massachusetts, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

effect of joint executors or joint administrators, giv-  
ing joint bond, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

liability of, to indemnify surety who has been  
damned by the default of one of them, 529  
note (a<sup>1</sup>).

liability of surety in such bond to an adminis-  
trator for default of the other, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

no one of two or more appointed executors can act  
until he has given bond, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).



ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*BOND TO THE ORDINARY — *continued.*

maladministration of survivor of two joint executors, happening after the death of the other, imposes no responsibility on the representatives of the deceased executor under a joint and several bond, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

administration bond by attorney of next of kin, 547.

administration bond by a third person for a wife entitled to administration when husband refuses to execute one, 547.

whether claim on administration bond is barred by certificate in bankruptcy, 547.

who are to attest the bond, 547.

number of sureties and amount of bond, 538 note (e<sup>4</sup>), 548.

preparation of bond, 548.

sureties to be responsible persons, 548.

bonds given before January 11, 1858, to remain in force, 542.

ordinary liable for neglect to take, 548 note (f<sup>2</sup>).

## EFFECT OF LETTERS,

as to what facts conclusive, 549-561.

in what cases equity will interfere, 552.

administratorship may be denied in pleading, 560.

cases where not conclusive, 561-563.

alterations in the law as to the effect of probate in real estate since the court of probate act, 563 *et seq.* See tit. *Probate.*

REVOCATION OF LETTERS, 571 *et seq.*

upon citation, 571.

upon appeal, 571-585. See tit. *Appeal.*

after grant no one may sue as executor until grant is recalled or revoked, 571.

second grant, without revoking the first, 574.

what are sufficient grounds for, 575-580.

discovery of will, 588 note (g), though nuncupative, 577 note (a). See *Probate, Vacating.*

proceedings subsequent to revocation for this cause, 588 note (f).

where estate has been fully settled, 588 note (g).

when granted to next of kin, 577, 578.

to one not next of kin, 579.

when granted *cum testamento annesso*, 579, 580.

re-grant *ad eundem*, 580.

what are not sufficient grounds for, 581, 582, and note (c).

party in possession of administration not bound to propound his interest till the other side has established his own, 583, 584.

acceptance of resignation of administrator amounts to revocation, 582 note (g).

effect of revocation, 586 *et seq.*

where the grant is void, 586, 587 note (f).

ADMINISTRATION — *continued.*

REVOCATION OF LETTERS — *continued.*

effect of revocation — *continued.*

supposed testator or intestate alive, 575 note (o<sup>1</sup>), 586 note (a).

payment to administrator or executor of a living person does not protect debtor, 587 note (f).

relief in such case by statute, in Massachusetts, 591 note (e<sup>1</sup>).

voidable, 588.

test, whether void or voidable, 590.

payment to an administrator under a void grant is a discharge, 590.

*bond fide* payments under revoked grants valid, 591.

under invalid probates to be protected, 592.

abatement of suit under old law, 592.

by probate act suggestion to be made on record and suit to continue, 592.

*audita querela*, where probate, &c. repealed after judgment, 592.

recouping for debts paid, &c. in a course of administration, 593.

proper plea for administrator after administration revoked, 594.

what amounts to an act of, by executors, 278-280.

expenses of, in what order payable, 988.

STAMP DUTY ON LETTERS, 595 *et seq.* See tit. *Stamps.*

TO SEAMEN AND MARINES, 454 *et seq.* See tit. *Seamen.*

ADMINISTRATION SUIT, 353 *et seq.*

ADMINISTRATOR. See tit. *Administration.*

origin of office of, 401.

who are incapable of being, 449-451.

in New York, 449 note (e).

person convicted of infamous crime, 449 note (e).

one incapable of making contracts, 449 note (e).

a foreign citizen not residing in New York, 449 note (e).

persons under age, given to drunkenness, or who are improvident or wanting in understanding, 449 notes (e) and (e<sup>1</sup>).

as to gamblers, persons of immoral habits, &c. 449 note (e).

as to ability to read and write, and to keep accounts, 449 note (e).

married women rendered competent by statute in some states, 450 note (i).

derives his title wholly from the probate court, 404.

cannot take as assignee by purchase, 702.

Power of,

equal to and with that of an executor, 925. See tit. *Executor.*

co-administrators, to impose a charge on their companions, 949.

survives to his companion if administration granted to more than one, 949.

to assign mortgage, 687 and note (z).

Duties of, 968 *et seq.* See tit. *Executor.*

as to distribution under the statute, 1484 *et seq.* See tit. *Distribution.*

under the customs, 1527 *et seq.* See tit. *Distribution.*

**ADMINISTRATOR** — *continued.*Duties of — *continued.*

as to payment of residue, 1526.

what may be done by, before letters granted, 404 *et seq.*

he cannot commence an action, 405.

but he may file a bill, 405.

a release not binding, 405.

assignment not valid, 405.

instances of relation of letters to death of intestate, 406, 407.

liable on promise made before letters, 1787.

if possessed of intestate's goods before letters granted, the court will require him to find security, 408.

Estate of. See tit. *Estate.*

rights of foreign administrators, 431.

legacy to, 1127 *et seq.*

as such, whether he can in any way take beneficially, 1139 *et seq.*

what are assets in his hands, 1656 *et seq.* See tit. *Assets.*

Liability of. See tits. *Executor, Actions, Remedies.*

with the will annexed, 461. See tit. *Administration.*

administrator of executor,

does not represent first testator 254, 959 note (a).

cannot sue for double value of lands held over, though the tenant has attorned to him, 254 note (c).

administrator *durante minoritate* of executor, 255 note (d).

administrator of an administrator does not represent the first intestate, 959 note (a).

but must settle first administrator's account of first intestate's estate, 959 note (a).

executor of,

who has underlet, his right to rent, 932.

he cannot, however, distrain, 932.

administrator *de son tort.*

the law knows no such appellation, 266 note (y).

his agreement as such will not bind him though he subsequently becomes rightful administrator, 405; but see p. 1787.

payments made by him to rightful administrator, after suit for account, not allowed, 268.

*de bonis non*, how far privy to original administrator or to the executor, 462 notes (c) and (d).

as to trusts in will, 462 notes (c) and (d).

error on judgment against, for executor or administrator, 903 note (c).

may maintain suits for property unadministered, 915 note (e).

entitled to all goods and personal estate remaining in specie, 915 note (e).

title of, relates to death of testator or intestate, 915 note (e).

may sue for intermediate injury, 915 note (e).

derives title from deceased, 915 note (e).

as to money, 915 note (e).

**ADMINISTRATOR** — *continued*.

- debts and choses in action, 915 note (e).
- what to be included in inventory, 915 note (e).
- suit against original administrator for unadministered assets, 539 note (b), 915 note (e).
- may sue original administrator on his bond for value of chattels, which he has not applied according to his duty, 915 note (e).
- right to balance in hands of former administrator, 915 note (e).
- right to money collected by former administrator on judgment obtained before removal, 915 note (e).
- as to notes or bonds given to former administrator, 915 note (e).
- how far bound by acts and admissions of former administrator, 916 note (g<sup>1</sup>).
- how far liable for moneys collected on assets in hands of former administrator or for his *devastavit*, 918 note (n<sup>1</sup>).
- how far liable for debt contracted by former executor or administrator, 961 note (n).
- how far may hold former executor or administrator liable, to account, 539 note (b).
- or for damages for maladministration, 539 note (b).
- may receive ascertained balance from former administrator, 539 note (b).
- may maintain action against sureties on bond of removed administrator to recover ascertained balance, by statutes of some states, 539 note (b).
- as to the rule of the English ecclesiastical law, and in states where there is no statute on the subject, 539 note (b).
- payment of balances due from former administrator, by decree, to distributees, 539 note (b).
- has no power to make deeds of land sold by former administrator, 961 note (n).
- his duty requires him to assume defence of action pending against former executor or administrator on claims against the deceased, 961 note (n).
- how far he succeeds to powers and duties of original executor, 961 note (n).

**ADMISSION,**

- made by executor, &c. before appointment, whether receivable against him as executor, 1894 and note (b); made after, receivable, 1894 note (b).
- of one of several executors will not bind the others, 1894.
- of assets, what is, and the effect of it, 2050–2053.

**ADVANCEMENT.** See *tit. Distribution*.

- of children by their father.
- provision of stat. 22 & 23 Car. 2, c. 10, respecting, 1498 *et seq.*
- extends only to advancement by *fathers*, 1499.
- by settlement of land, 1500.
- what is such an advancement, 1500, 1501.
- effect of, not dependent on agreement by child, 1498 note (f<sup>1</sup>).

**ADVANCEMENT** — *continued.*

- bringing advancement into hotchpot, 1498 note (h), 1499 note (l).
- no part of estate, to be administered upon, 1498 note (h).
- statute of Massachusetts respecting, 1498 note (g), 1500 note (n<sup>1</sup>), 1502 note (a).
- by will of testator, 1502 note (a).
- absolute gift may be changed into, 1502 note (a).
- not by subsequent acts and declarations merely, 1502 note (a).
- as to changing advancement into debt, or trust, or gift, 1502 note (a).
- provisions for mode of proving advancements in several states, 1502 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- parol proof, and presumptions, as to, 1502 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- as to effect of intention as to, 1502 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- provision of, out of personal estate 1500 note (n<sup>1</sup>), 1501.
- what is so considered, 1502-1504, 1498 note (g), 1502 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- what is not, 1504, and note (s).
- to be deducted from legacy, 1333 note (s).
- how value of, to be ascertained, 1498 note (g).
- under the custom of London and York, 1538-1543.
  - child fully advanced, 1538.
  - child advanced beyond his share, 1538, 1539.
  - child partially advanced, 1540.
  - child shall bring into hotchpot with the children only, 1540.
  - child married, 1540, 1541.
  - out of real estate, 1541.
  - according to the custom of London, 1541.
  - of York, 1542.
  - out of personal estate, 1543.
  - what is so considered, 1543.

**ADVOWSON.** See tit. *Church.*

**AFTER ACQUIRED LANDS,**

- law regarding effect of will upon, 6 note (d).

**AGE,**

- does not render incompetent to make will, 38 and note (u), 39 and note (x).
- unless inducing a failure of understanding, 38 note (b), 39 notes (x) and (y).

**AGENT,**

- cannot sue executor of his principal in respect of services after his death, 1727.
- responsibility of executor for embezzlement by his agent, 1817 *et seq.*, 1817 note (e), 1820 note (u<sup>1</sup>).

**ALIEN.** See tit. *Foreigner.*

- capacity of, to make a will of personalty, 12.
- secus*, as to chattels real, 12 note (b).
- friend,
  - may be executor, 229.
  - may be administrator, 431, 484.

**ALIEN — continued.**

enemy,

whether he may be executor, 231.

probate of will of, 360 *et seq.*

administration of effects of, 429 *et seq.*

distribution of effects of, 1515 *et seq.*

capacity of, to be a legatee, 1052.

by recent statute in England may now make wills of real and personal estate, and otherwise transmit it, as natural born subjects may, 12 note (b).  
disabilities of, partially, in some states, and in others wholly, removed, 12 note (b).

privileges conferred upon, by state laws, strictly local, 12 note (b).

**ALIENATION,**

condition against, in devise, 1266 and notes (n<sup>a</sup>), (o<sup>1</sup>), (q), and (t).

**ALIMONY,**

not recoverable, if in arrear, by the representatives of wife, 846.

**"ALL MY JUST DEBTS,"**

meaning of, 1713.

**ALLOWANCES. See tit. Accounts.**

of executors,

for his expenses, 1852 and note (p).

for funeral expenses, gravestones, &c. 968 *et seq.*, 1852 note (p). See *Funeral and Gravestones.*

for time and expenses in attending funeral, 1852 note (p).

remarks of Judge Story upon the policy of properly remunerating persons performing fiduciary duties, 1853 note (r).

for his trouble, 1852-1855, 1852 note (p), 1853 note (r).

compensation for time and trouble, &c. of executors, administrators, and trustees, generally provided for and allowed in the American States, 1853 note (r).

how compensation determined in several states, 1853 note (r).  
effect of unfaithful administration on compensation, 1853 note (r).

when compensation refused, 1853 note (r).

when entitled to commission, 1855 *et seq.*, 1853 note (r).

in India, 1856-1859.

being a solicitor or attorney for his costs for professional business done by him for the benefit of the estate, 1853-1855, 1854 note (c).

for payments to collectors, &c. 1859.

to accountant, 1860.

to an attorney, 1860 and note (k).

for money advanced by him for the benefit of the estate, 1861 note (n).

for interest for money advanced by him, 1861, and note (o).

receiving money to which he is not entitled, must refund, though he has paid it away to creditors, 1861, 1862 and note (r<sup>a</sup>).

power of master, under a reference of just allowances, 1862, 1863.

in the probate court, 2061.

ALLOWANCES — *continued.*

of payments made to creditors after a bill filed for administration of assets, 1037.

to widow and children of deceased, by statutes in Massachusetts and other states, 763, note (o<sup>1</sup>).

made from personal estate, and whether there is a will or note, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

priority to payment of debts, &c. 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

second allowance may be made, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

decree for cannot be revoked, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

the purpose of allowance to widow, &c. 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

as to notice of widow's application for allowance, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

the provision for allowance temporary and personal, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).  
her claim before decree for allowance dies with widow, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

after decree she may have action against executor, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

considerations for guiding the probate court in making or refusing allowance, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

judge to be guided by the circumstances of the case, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

decision of judge of probate subject to appeal, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

in Vermont the discretion of judge of probate extends only to the amount, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

as to year's provision for widow and children in Georgia, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

in Mississippi, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

in North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, and Iowa, 763 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

## ALTERATIONS,

in a will. See *tits. Will, Interlineations.*

at what time presumed to have been made, 130-132 and notes (p), (q), and (s).

effect of, made after execution, 130 note (m).

by parties, 569 note (v<sup>1</sup>).

by strangers, 569 note (v<sup>1</sup>).

revocation by, 128 *et seq.*, 143 *et seq.*

probate in common form of will exhibiting, how granted, 330, 331, and note (a).

## AMBIGUITY,

upon the *factum*, 353.

what it is, 353, 354.

parol evidence to explain, 353.

on the face of a will,

when evidence admissible to explain, 355-357.

## AMBULATORY and revocable,

characteristics of wills, 6 note (a).

## ANCILLARY ADMINISTRATION,

what is, 362 note (u), 1430 note (g), 1663 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

**ANCILLARY ADMINISTRATION** — *continued.*

may be granted in Massachusetts on estate of foreign resident, although deceased left will, which has not been proved in state of his domicil, 361 note (q), 362 note (u), 430 note (g).

or although administration of estate of deceased intestate has not been taken in state of his domicil, 362 note (u), 430 note (g).

independent of principal administration, 362 note (u).

no privity between them or between different ancillary administrations, 362 note (u), 1664 note (k).

duty of ancillary administrator to collect assets, pay debts, and remit balance to place of principal administration, 362 note (u), 1664 notes (k) and (l).

surplus remaining after ancillary administration is completed, how to be disposed of, 1664 notes (k) and (l) and (m).

to be governed by law of place where taken out, 1664 note (l).

in case of insolvent estates, how distribution made between foreign and domestic creditors, 1664 note (l).

**"AND,"**

the word construed "or" in a will, 1085.

**ANIMUS TESTANDI,**

will must be made with, 106, note (p).

will made in jest, 106, note (p).

**ANNUITY,**

definition of, 809.

when payment of, to begin, 809 note (q), 1390 note (d).

not a chose in action, but an interest in equity, 784, note (b).

when it goes to the heir, and not the executor, 808, 809.

question whether real or personal estate, 809.

apportionment of, 831, 835, 1389 note (c).

arrears of,

when apportionable at common law, 835.

by stat. 4 W. 4, c. 22, 829 *et seq.*

what passes by the bequest of an "annuity," 1194-1196.

whether perpetual or for life, 1194.

bequest to purchase for legatee, 1195.

rights of legatee, 1196.

given by will,

the first payment shall be made at the expiration of the year next after testator's death, 1389.

interest on, 1427. See, too, 1389, 1390.

takes precedence over residuary gift, 1360.

whether payable out of the capital of testator's estate, 1360 note (a).

or out of income, 1360 note (a).

has no preference in abatement over general legacies, 1367.

compelling appropriation of sum by executor to secure payment, 1402-1404.

who is to sustain the loss consequent on any failure of the fund appropriated, 1402 and note (e), 1403.



**ANNUITY** — *continued.*

given by will — *continued.*

effect to be given to intent of testator, 1402 note (e).

appropriation with consent of annuitant, 1402 note (e).

duty of executor as to, 1402 note (e).

stamp duty on, 1550, 1558, 1559.

personal, not within stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 27, s. 42, 2030 note (b).

**ANNUM, DIEM ET VASTUM,**

goes to the executors of grantee, 671.

**ANTENUPTIAL SETTLEMENT,**

of money, jewels, &c. by the husband, 751.

agreement in writing, 752.

**APERTURA TESTAMENTI,** 325 note (d).**APPEAL,**

respecting grants of probate or letters of administration, 571 *et seq.*

as to notice of, 574 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

suspends the former sentence, 588 and note (i).

and an order of revocation leaving letters in full force, 588 note (i).

where the cause was commenced before the archdeacon under the old law, 571.

before the bishop, 571.

from the archbishop to the delegates, 572.

delegates adjunct, 572 note (d).

proceedings of the delegates according to the rules of the civil law, 572 note (d).

practice as to, 572 note (d).

commission of review, 573.

by 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 41, transferred to the judicial committee of the privy council, 573.

by court of probate act appellate jurisdiction in matters testamentary transferred to house of lords, 573, 574.

rules of court respecting appeals, 574.

who may appeal, *Paine v. Goodwin*, 56 Maine, 541.

first duty of appellant is to establish his right to appeal, 574 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

the judgment of appellate court is passed only on the order appealed from, 574 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

course of proceeding, 574 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

operation of bond suspended during proceedings on appeal, 588 note (i).

when a new allegation will be allowed in the court of appeal, 584.

effect to be given to judgment of ordinary, surrogate, or judge of probate, on the appeal, 584, note (r).

mistake in account corrected on, *Judge of Probate v. Lane*, 51 N. H. 342.

**APPOINTMENT.** See *tit. Power.*

legacy to a class according to, shall not fail for default of, 1423.

what the court will do if no selection, 1115, 1423.

notice of, how may be proved, *Henry v. Estey*, 13 Gray, 336.

" APPORTIONMENT ACT, 1870," 833, 839.

APPORTIONMENT,

of rent, 1389 note (c).

to executor of tenant for life, &c. 826 *et seq.*

of annuities, 831, 835, 839 note (m<sup>1</sup>), 1389 note (c).

of payments in respect of tithes, 828.

of land tax and quit rent, 837.

of interest, 831, 837, 839 note (m), 1389 note (c).

of dividends of stock, 831, 836, 837, 838, 839 note (m<sup>1</sup>), 1389 note (c).

on railway debentures, 837 and note (d).

APPRAISEMENT,

commission of, 975 note (c).

issuing of, no good return to *mandamus* to compel probate, 388.

APPRENTICE,

executor of master has no interest in, 814-817.

provisions as to parish apprentices by stat. 32 Geo. 3, 816.

not liable on covenant to instruct the apprentice, 1765.

*secus*, as to maintenance, 1735.

but a magistrate cannot order it; 1735 note (h).

APPROPRIATION,

of legacies payable *in futuro*.

doctrine of, 1399-1404, 1402 note (b).

suggestion of insolvency of executor, or of a *devastavit*, not necessary to compel, 1399, 1400.

where a certain sum of money is given on a contingency, 1401.

who must bear the losses or enjoy the profits incident to, 1402, 1810, note (f).

costs of a suit to secure legacy to an infant, 1408.

to secure bequest of annuity, 1402 and notes (d) and (e).

of legacy where the amount of the testator's debts is contingent, 1404.

ARBITRATION,

when executor may proceed on submission by testator, 907.

when award made after testator's death valid, 908.

cannot be enforced by attachment, 908 note (g), 2003.

effect of submitting title to wife's term to, by husband, 699.

wife's choses in action, 867.

when executor liable *as such* on a promise to pay the sum awarded, 1771, 1772, 2002.

when *personally* liable on a submission, 1784-1786.

*devastavit* by submitting to, 1800.

stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s. 30; executors may compound and refer to arbitration, 1801.

executors and administrators may submit to, in Massachusetts, Maine, and other states, 1801 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

rule in Virginia, 1801 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

limitation on power to submit, in New York, Texas, Illinois, 1801 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

**ARCHBISHOP,**

his options pass to his executor, 673.

what his options are, 673.

*semble*, destroyed by stat. 3 & 4 Vict. c. 113, 676 note (i).

**ARCHES,**

court of, 572 note (c).

**ARREARS,**

of rent, pass to executor in all cases, 820.

when it is in arrear so as to go to executor, 821, 822 *et seq.*

of interest will not pass by the bequest of the debt, 1197.

nor the debt by a bequest of the arrears, 1197.

**ARREST,**

an executor or administrator might have arrested the defendant, 1869.

before probate, 307.

what is a sufficient affidavit for, 1869.

is within stat. 43 Geo. 3, c. 46, if without reasonable or probable cause, 1870.

after arrest by the testator, 1869.

when an executor or administrator might have been arrested, 1869.

abolition of, for debt by "Debtor's Act, 1869," 1869 note (c).

**ARTICHOKES,**

whether they go to executor, 710 note (r).

**"ASCERTAINED,"**

word construed "made certain," 1086.

**ASSAULT,**

action for, does not survive to executor, 793. See 796 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

nor against him, 1728.

**ASSENT,**

of executor to legacy, 1372-1386.

necessity of, to complete legatee's title, 1372.

although testator direct him to take possession without, 1372.

where a testator forgives a debt, 1373.

to bequest of government stock, 1373.

if legatee takes the legacy without assent, the executor may have trover, 1374.

executor is bound to assent, when there are no debts, 1374 note (n).

may refuse until he has time to ascertain whether assets are sufficient, 1374 note (n).

if executor refuse without a cause, he may be compelled in equity to assent, 1374.

the legatee has a transmissible right without assent, 1372.

legal estate remains in executor until his assent and legatee's acceptance, 1372 note (d).

what shall constitute, 1374-1377.

when thing bequeathed is in possession of legatee, 1375 note (p).

not essential for its efficacy that it should confer a legal interest, 1385-1386.

**ASSENT** — *continued.*

of executor to legacy — *continued.*

what shall constitute — *continued.*

presumed assent, 1377.

conditional assent, 1377 and note (k).

by whom, 1378.

may be inferred from acts and expressions of executor recognizing present right to receive legacy, 1374 note (o).

effect of, 1378.

is presumptive evidence of assets, 1374 note (n).

vests title in legatee, 1376 note (a).

after, action lies against executor for a specific legacy, 1378.

in what cases it may be retracted, 1379.

relation of, to death of testator, 1379.

where he is one of several executors, 948.

executor's assent to his own legacy,

in case he dies without proving the will, 303.

necessity of, 1380.

when implied, 1380, 1381.

effect of entry by executor when a term of years is bequeathed to him, 1382.

taking possession of chattels bequeathed to him for life, 1385.

when he renounces probate, 1385.

when he is one of several executors, 1386.

**ASSETS.** See *tit. Estate.*

meaning of the term, 1655.

what are *legal* assets in the hands of an executor or administrator, 1656–1680.

of an executor of an executor, 639, 640.

assets which were not in testator, 1656.

by contract, 1656.

lease renewed by executor, 1656.

by remainder, 1657.

by increase, 1657–1660.

young of cattle, 1657.

profits of land demised, 1657.

rents accruing before and rents accruing after death of testator or intestate, 1656 note (b<sup>1</sup>). See *tit. Rent.*

profits of trade, 1658.

goodwill, 1658, note (q).

profits of share in a newspaper, 1658.

profits of physical nostrums, 1658.

profits arising from the labor of apprentices, 1659.

interest, 1656 note (i<sup>1</sup>), 1657 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

any savings or accumulations out of the estate, 1657 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

ASSETS—*continued.*

what are *legal* assets in the hands of an executor or administrator—*continued.*

assets which were not in testator — *continued.*

by condition, 1660.

things pledged by testator, 1660.

property of testator, wherever situate, 364 and note (c<sup>d</sup>), 1661–1664 and notes.

an executor may sue here, in respect of foreign assets, without foreign probate, 365.

executor appointed in one state may take possession of goods in hands of bailee in another state, with bailee's consent, 364 note (c<sup>d</sup>).

may collect debt of debtor in another state, if it can be done without bringing suit, 364 note (c<sup>d</sup>).

qualification of this, 364 note (c<sup>d</sup>).

leasehold in Ireland, 1662 note (d).

stock in foreign funds, 1661, 1662.

railroad stock, 1656 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

estate, once administered in a foreign state, being the domicile of the testator or intestate, no longer assets, 433 note (q); 1663 note (h<sup>d</sup>).

chattel interest in lands by law of foreign countries, 1662 note (d).

lands and houses, &c. in the plantations, 1664, 1666.

real estate in India, 1666, 1667.

real estate held in mortgage, 1656 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

next avoidance of a church, 1671.

office for years, 1671.

estates *pur autre vie*, 1671.

of any person who shall die after 1st January, 1838, under 1 Vict. c. 26, 1674.

property to which executor is entitled as *persona designata*, 1139 *et seq.*, 1674.

property in testator as trustee, 1675, and note (i).

where property has no ear-mark, 1675 note (i).

as to letters received by testator or intestate, 1656 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

advancements are not assets, 1656 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

debts due from executor or administrator or from firm of which he is a member, 1656 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

promissory note to testator which he declared he would not enforce, 1675 note (j).

terms attendant on inheritance, 1675.

fund for specific purpose not general assets, 1676–1679.

if executor dies, the assets are not liable to his debts, 639.

goods returned, on judgment for return, in replevin, against executor or administrator, 786 note (g).

money received from government under a treaty with foreign power, as indemnity for loss by act of such power, 1656 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

ASSETS — *continued*.

what are *legal* assets in the hands of an executor or administrator — *continued*.

damages assessed for land taken for highway, 1656 note (d).

salary voted to a person after his decease, 1656 note (d).

dividend of tolls, 1656 note (d).

money recovered upon appeal bond, 1656 note (d).

property assigned in fraud of creditors, 1679 and note (x).

what assets shall be considered as *come to hand*, so as to charge the executor, 1667–1670, 1667 note (u), 1946 note (t). But see, also, 1806, 1807.

a debt discharged by an administrator in payment of his own debt, 1670 note (p).

what are *equitable* assets in the hands of an executor, 1680.

distinction between legal and equitable assets, 1680 and note (a<sup>2</sup>), 1681.

equity of redemption, 1682 and note (k<sup>1</sup>), 1683.

lease for years, bond, &c. in trustee's name, 1683.

proceeds of sale of real estates devised to be sold to pay debts, 1683–1685.

of real estates sold under license to pay debts, &c.

1656 note (b<sup>1</sup>), 1691 note (h).

assets partly legal and partly equitable, 1685.

beneficial interest under a power, 1685, 1686.

term for years which has merged by the executor's purchasing the reversion, 641.

real assets in the hands of the heir or devisee, 1587–1590, 1692 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104, 1690 *et seq.*

exoneration of, 1693 *et seq.* See tit. *Exoneration*.

of marshalling the assets, 1693 note (l<sup>1</sup>), 1713.

in favor of creditors, 1693 note (l<sup>1</sup>), 1713–1715.

in favor of legatees, 1716–1720 and notes.

in favor of widow in respect of her paraphernalia, 767.

case of mortgagee proving under a decree, 1715.

assets not marshalled in favor of charitable bequests, 1720.

order of the application of the several funds liable to the payment of debts, 1693 note (l<sup>1</sup>).

admission of,

effect of, 2050. See, too, 2007, 2008.

what amounts to, 2050, 2053. See, also, 1968 *et seq.*

executor cannot purchase from himself, 938, 1842, 1843.

how the effects which an executor takes as such may become his own, 646, 647, 1924; but see 647 note (k), and 2039 note (p).

power of executor to alien, 643, 932 *et seq.*

when they may be followed, 938, 2053.

proof of, under plea of *plene administravit*, 1966 *et seq.*

what are assets subject to the customs of London and York, 1548, 1549.

**ASSETS — continued.**

when a sufficient consideration to charge an executor personally on his own promise, 1782.

bill for discovery of, 2006. See tit. *Bill in Equity*.

new assets, property conveyed in fraud of creditors, and recovered by executor or administrator, 1679 note (x); as to rents, &c. *Alden v. Stebbins*, 99 Mass. 616; *Kimball v. Sumner*, 62 Maine, 307.

deficiency of, how charged, in abatement of legacies, 1359 note (r<sup>1</sup>).

**ASSIGNEE. See tit. Bankrupt.**

administrator cannot take as, by purchase, 702.

when executors and administrators take by contract as assigns, 789, 884, 885.

on contract to be performed on day which happens after testator's death, 884, 885.

executor of lessee sued as, for rent incurred after testator's death, 1752 *et seq.*

for dilapidations, 1759, 1760.

not liable as, after assignment of lease by himself, 1758, 1759.

executor of, liable on breaches of covenant in lease granted to insolvent, 1761.

**ASSIGNMENT,**

of lease, by executors when restrained by condition not to assign, 940.

its effect on the liability of executor of lessee to pay rent after testator's death, 1758, 1759.

of right to administer, 417 note (o).

**ASSURANCE,**

power of executors of assurer to re-assure, 944.

of assured to procure indorsement of policy, 944.

**ATTACHMENT,**

of debt due to estate of executor under stat. 17 & 18 Vict. c. 125, s. 41, 1984 note (f).

against wife executrix, 2024.

foreign, 2001, 2002.

**ATTAINED PERSONS,**

may sue as executors, 235.

cannot be administrators, 449.

goods of deceased not forfeited by executor's attainder, 536.

**ATTESTATION. See tits. Will, Witnesses.**

not necessary for a will of personalty (made before January 1, 1838), 84.

clause of, without witnesses, how far it raises a presumption against the will, 85.

of all wills (made on or after January 1, 1838), 86-103.

no form necessary but desirable, 93 and note (k).

clause of, not necessary, 93 note (k), 347 note (g).

by mark of witnesses, 94 and notes (n) and (o).

one witness cannot subscribe for another, 94 note (o).

by witness holding top of pen while another person writes his name, 94 note (o).

ATTESTATION — *continued.*

must be either by name of witness or some mark or description to represent it, 95 and note (i).

in New York, must be at the end of will, 96 note (y<sup>2</sup>).

and in this and some other states must be at the request of testator, 89 note (g), 96 note (y<sup>2</sup>).

effect of the evidence of attesting witness, as to the circumstances of attestation, 101-103 and note (w).

failure of memory of attesting witnesses as to circumstances of attestation, 103 note (w).

no evidence of opinion of attesting witness in favor of sanity of testator, 352 note (g).

ATTESTING WITNESSES. See *tit. Evidence, Witnesses.*

ATTORNEY AND SOLICITOR. See *tit. Costs.*

making a will in his own favor, 111 *et seq.*, 552 note (s).

grant of administration by letters to, 438, 468.

of next of kin, 438.

functions and liabilities, 438, 439.

sureties to the bond, 439.

authority to attorney to apply for, 438 note (u).

to attorney of executor, 468.

consequences of such administration, 468.

does not break chain of representation, 468.

revocation and termination of, 468. See, too, 509.

form of, 470 *et seq.* See, too, 509.

authority of, is determined by the death of client, 909.

death of, power of court under 33 & 34 Vict. c. 28, to enforce or set aside agreement by, 909 note (p).

has no lien on the original will of his client, 313.

priority in payment of debts, 991.

of next of kin,

grant of administration to, 438, 468.

of executor, grant of administration to, *durante absentia* of the executor, 487 note (b).

effect of return of executor, 509.

negligence by,

when action for, survives for executor, 799.

action for, survives against executor, 1722.

executor,

not entitled to be paid any costs for professional services although they were for the benefit of the estate, 1853, 1854.

power of,

executor making payments under, not liable by reason of the death of party giving it, stat. 23 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 26, 910.

liability of executor for acts done under, 1788.

executor cannot exercise a power of sale by, 944.



**ATTORNEY AND SOLICITOR** — *continued.*

executor of,

must now deliver a bill, before commencing action, 1867.

the bill may be taxed, 1867.

executor liable to costs, 1867.

liability of executor to pay bill after taxation, 2003.

**AUDITA QUERELA,**

relief by, when executor obtains judgment, and then the probate is revoked, 592, 1898.

**AUNT,**

her degree as next of kin, 1510.

grandfather preferred to her, 423, 1510.

great-grandfather shall share with her in distribution, 423, 1510.

so shall nephews and nieces, 1510.

**AUTER DROIT,** 636, 640.**AUTER VIE.** See tit. *Estate pur Auter Vie.***AUTHOR,**

undertaking to write a work and dying before completion, his executor not liable, 1724.

**AVOWRY,**

by executor,

for rent accrued since testator's death,

must state the quantity at the testator's death, 818.

**AWARD.** See tit. *Arbitration.***B.****BAIL,**

executor might hold defendant to, 1869.

. affidavit necessary, 1869.

**BAIL BOND,**

executor of assignee of, may bring an action upon it, 786

**BAILEE,**

executor or administrator is, 1668, 1669, 1807.

**BANKER,**

loss by failure of,

when executor liable for, 1817.

**BANKER'S DRAFT,**

may operate as a will, 104, 105.

**BANK-NOTES,**

when they pass by a bequest of "effects," 1178, 1179.

by a bequest of "goods," 1181.

of "money," 1189.

**BANK OF ENGLAND.** See tit. *Stock.*

bonus given by, passes to legatee of capital, 1439.

**BANKRUPT,**

appointed executor,

probate must be granted to, 236, 387.

**BANKRUPT** — *continued.*

appointed executor — *continued.*

control of, by appointing a receiver, 236, 377.

by requiring security, 237.

assignees of, will be restrained, on petition in the bankruptcy, from paying over the fund to him, 236 note (u).

propounding a will must find security for costs, 377.

cannot be appointed administrator, 449. See page 427.

executor becoming bankrupt,

the goods of the testator do not pass, 637.

receiver appointed, to whom assignees shall account, 638.

forfeiture of lease, in case lessee or his executor shall become bankrupt, 638.

where he is residuary legatee, 638.

proving *devastavit* under commission, 2054.

specific legacy to, not exclusively applicable to make good *devastavit*, 2054.

*devastavit* covered by certificate, 2054.

guilty of *devastavit* cannot prove under his own bankruptcy, 2054.

his co-executor may, 2055 note (t).

so may a legatee, 2055.

may get an order to prove upon his own estate for a debt due to him as sole executor, 2055 note (t).

by carrying on the trade of testator, 1791.

how far the assets liable, 1791.

plea by executor of bankruptcy, 1942.

executor of,

when entitled to allowance, 844.

legatee,

to whom the interest in the legacy belongs, 1052, 1266.

condition as to legatee becoming bankrupt, 1266.

husband of legatee or next of kin,

when executor may set off his debt against the legacy, &c. to the wife, 1308.

**BARON AND FEME.** See tit. *Husband and Wife.*

**BASTARD,**

administration of effects of, 433.

distribution of effects of, 1514 and note (r).

capability of taking as legatee, 1099.

under the description of "child," 1099-1112.

may take under name of sons and daughters, when, 1101 note (s).

as heir or distributee under statutes in Massachusetts and other states, 1514 note (r).

liability of personal representative of mother of, 1734.

**BEDS,**

when they are heir-looms, 721.

**BEEES,**

when they pass to an executor, 705 note (1).

property in, 705 note (1).

found in a swarm in tree on the land of another, 705 note (1).

**BENEFICE.** See tit. *Church*.

**BENEVOLENCE.** See tit. *Charitable Uses*.

**BILL IN EQUITY,**

suit *by* an executor or administrator, 1900.

to restrain publication of testator's letters, 1900.

of his unpublished works, 1900.

for a discovery of testator's personal estate, 1901.

to compel a legatee to refund, 1901.

may be revived by order, 890, 1910. See tit. *Revivor*.

no abatement by death of co-executor, 1910.

against co-executor, 1911.

form of bill, 1911.

allegation that he has obtained probate or letters, 1911.

parties, 1911.

plea, 1912.

denial that plaintiff is executor, 1912.

outlawry, 1912.

statute of limitations, 1912.

set-off, 1913.

injunction to restrain proceedings at law, 1918 *et seq.*

executor cannot sue *in forma pauperis*, 1928.

suit *against* executors or administrators, 2006 *et seq.*

executors are considered as trustees, 2006.

bill for a legacy, 2006.

bill for distribution, 2006, 2007.

bill for an account, 2006, 2007.

bill for discovery of assets, 2007.

bill by a creditor, 2007 *et seq.*

does not abate by death of one of the plaintiffs, 1910.

if he died after decree his executor may obtain an order to

revive, 1910.

lies within a year, 2013.

for his own demand, 2007.

on behalf of himself and other creditors, 2007 *et seq.*

several bills by several creditors, 2012.

power to compromise or dismiss it, 2012.

bill by a legatee,

on behalf of himself and other legatees, 2008.

several bills by several claimants, 2012.

bill by claimant under general description,

on behalf of himself and others, 2008.

will not lie for debtor to obtain directions as to disposal of money due

by him, 2013.

**BILL IN EQUITY — continued.**

suit *against* executors or administrators — *continued*.

does not lie for an account of administration of an infant, 2013.

no longer necessary for administration of personal estate, stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, sect. 45, 2009, 2010.

or of real estate devised for sale, 2010.

or charged with payment of debts, 2010.

revived by order, 2013. See tit. *Revivor*.

against representative of testator, on death of the executor after decree obtained against him, 2014.

Parties, 2014 *et seq.* See tit. *Parties*.

Writ of *ne exeat regno*, 2022–2024. See tit. *Ne exeat regno*.

attachment against wife executrix, 2024.

defence, 2024–2030.

statute of limitations, 2024–2030. See tit. *Limitations*.

set-off, 2032.

costs, 2033 *et seq.* See tit. *Costs*.

receiver, when appointed, 2032.

jurisdiction over his executor, 2033.

motion for payment of money into court, 2044–2048.

the executor is not thereby deprived of his lien or retainer, 2048.

production of papers, 2048, 2049.

**BILL OF EXCHANGE.** See tit. *Indorser*.

indorsement on, may operate as a will, 105.

given to *feme covert*,

*dum sola*, 848.

during coverture, 849.

given or indorsed to executor, as such, he may declare upon it as executor, 880, 1874.

indorsed to testator after his death, 880.

power of executor to indorse, 943.

not due till after testator's death, executor liable upon, 1723.

made payable at a time certain after the death of the testator bears interest from date, 1770.

when executor personally liable upon, 1780.

executor indorsing personally liable, 1781, note (o).

presentment of, by executor, &c. 1898.

to executor, &c. 2003 and notes (l) and (m), 2004.

notice of dishonor to executor, &c. of drawer or indorser, 2003, 2004.

given by a stranger for debt of one deceased, 262 note (g).

effect of holder making acceptor executor, 2004.

by what words bills will pass to a legatee, 1178 *et seq.*

how an executor should declare upon it, if he intends to rely on a promise to himself to bar the statute of limitations, 1881, 1882.

*non assumpsit* a good plea, 1881.

## BILL OF EXCEPTIONS,

*sci. fa.* against executors of judge to certify, 1769.

## BIRDS,

when they pass to executor, 703-705.

BISHOP. See tit. *Ordinary*.

## BLANK SPACES,

in the *body* of a will unobjectionable, 81, 82.

blank bequests in will, effect of, 74 note (n).

## BLIND,

capacity of, to make a will, 18 and note (k).

will of,

must be read to testator, and acknowledged by him before witnesses,  
18, 351.

acknowledgment without reading over insufficient, 18.

need not be read before *subscribing* witnesses, 19.

single oath of writer sufficient, 19 note (m).

where testator is, attestation of will, 98.

## BONA NOTABILIA,

archbishop's prerogative under the old law, where the deceased left *bona notabilia* in another diocese than that wherein he died, 289, 290.

to what value goods must have amounted to be accounted *bona notabilia*, 289 note (h); no particular amount of property required for grant of administration in state of domicil, where, 291 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

canon 93d, 289 note (h).

authority of the canons, 289 note (h).

some rules of the old law respecting, 290.

abolished by the probate act, 290.

## BOND,

may operate as a will, 105.

so an assignment of, 105.

executor liable upon bond of testator though not named, 1723.

though not due till after his death, 1723.

when liable on a joint bond, 1741.

to feme covert,

given *dum sola*, 847.

to husband and wife during coverture, 847.

to wife alone during coverture, 847.

Scotch heritable descends to heir, 786, note (d).

heir not put to election as to, 1444.

to executor,

he cannot declare upon, as executor, 882.

administrator's bond, 529 *et seq.* See tit. *Administration*.

stat. 22 & 23 Car. 2, 529.

repealed by court of probate act, 530.

required of every administrator before entering on execution of trust, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).

this requirement general in the American States, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>), 1820 note (y).

BOND — *continued.*

required of every administrator before entering on execution of trust — *continued.*

- taken in name of state, probate court, or judge of probate, as prescribed by statute, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- office not filled until bond is given, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- effect of failure to give, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- effect of deviations from prescribed form of, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- residence required of sureties, 544 note (z).
- alteration of bond without consent of sureties, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- effect of invalidity of bond as to part of those appearing to be sureties, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- executed by sureties but not by administrator, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- operation of, suspended during proceedings on appeal from probate, 538 note (i).
- joint and several bond of several executors or administrators, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>), 1820 note (y).
- effect on bond of being signed by less than the required number of sureties, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- one of two administrators chargeable only as surety on joint bond for *devastavit* of other administrator, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- suit for benefit of estate by insolvent administrator against his own sureties, 533 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- suit on bond, by whom or for whom it may be instituted, 534 notes (g<sup>1</sup>) and (g<sup>2</sup>), 536 note (l).
- statute provisions respecting suit on bond in Massachusetts, 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>), 541 note (k).
- comments of Shaw C. J. on these provisions, 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>).
- when provable in bankruptcy against a surety, 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>).
- decree of distribution, &c. before action on bond for benefit of legatee, &c. 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>).
- preliminary acts required of creditor, legatee, or distributee before suit on bond in his favor, 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>).
- not necessary that executor or administrator should have been driven to insolvency, 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>).
- extent to which sureties are liable on administration bond, 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>).
  - as to proceeds of real estate sold for payment of debts or otherwise, 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>).
  - as to rents and profits of real estate received by executor or administrator, 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>).
  - as to assets which do not come to his hands, though charged in his account, 534 note (g<sup>2</sup>).
- decree of probate court conclusive as to executor, or administrator and his sureties, 534 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- account settled in probate court cannot be attacked in suit on bond, 534 note (e<sup>3</sup>).
- entry of judgment and award of execution in suit on bond, 534 note (e<sup>3</sup>).

**BOND** — *continued.*

extent to which sureties are liable on administration bond — *continued.*

as to notice to obligors before leave to sue on bond in favor of legatees, 534 note (e<sup>8</sup>).

as to disposition of money collected on execution on bond, 541 note (k<sup>4</sup>).

sureties on administration bond may be discharged by probate court, 534 note (e<sup>8</sup>).

what will constitute, and effect of, discharge, 534 note (e<sup>8</sup>).

remedy against executor or administrator for neglect or refusal to account is suit on bond, 534 note (e<sup>8</sup>), 540 note (d).

whether must be cited to account before forfeiture for not accounting when bond requires account within a specified period, 540 notes (d) and (e).

omission to inventory property known to belong to estate, when breach of bond, 539 note (c).

no citation necessary before suit on bond for not returning inventory, 539 note (c).

executor's bond, 237 note (z). See tit. *Security.*

extent of liability of sureties on, 237 note (z).

in Massachusetts and many other states executors are required to give bonds in like manner as administrators, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>), 1820 note (y).

as to the duty of co-executors and co-administrators with regard to the mode of giving bonds, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>), 1820 note (y).

may give separate bonds, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

effect of their giving joint bonds, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>), 1820 note (y).

cases where executor may be exempted from giving sureties on his bond, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

exemption personal, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

bond may be required for cause even where exemption requested by testator, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

new bond may be required, when, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

sureties may be discharged, when, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

power to act as executor depends on giving security when required, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

consequences of not giving bond, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

effect of giving bond without surety, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

effect of appeal on bond, 599 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

when executor who is residuary legatee may give bond to pay debts, legacies, &c. and the effect of such bond, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

co-executors with residuary legatee give ordinary bond, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

administrator with will annexed who is residuary legatee, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

executor or administrator who being residuary legatee has given bonds to pay debts, legacies, &c. may be required to give new bonds, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

**BOND — continued.**

- as to the security required of executors in New York and Pennsylvania, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- all probate bonds must have the approval in writing of the probate judge in Massachusetts, 531 note (a<sup>4</sup>).
- bond debt,
  - its rank as to payment by executor, 1010.
  - joint and several bond, 1012.
  - executor co-obligor, 1013.
  - joint bond, 1013, 1741.
  - co-obligor having paid the bond not a specialty creditor, 1013.
  - voluntary bond, 1015, 1016.
  - usurious bond, or *in turpi causa*, 1016.
  - bond due from *feme covert*, 1016.
  - bond for payment of money at a future day, 1021.
  - on a contingency, 1022 *et seq.*
- the penalty is the debt at law when the bond is forfeited, 1959.
- how an executor should plead it as outstanding, 1960.
- if the obligee makes the obligor his executor the debt is released, 1310.
- co-obligor appointed executor, 1310.
- effect of the obligor making the obligee his executor, 1317.
- when it does or when it does not pass under the bequest of "goods," 1178 *et seq.*
- bequest of debt due on, does not pass arrears of interest, 1197.

**BONUS,**

- when legatee of stock entitled to, 1439.

**BOOKS.** See *tits. Medical Books, Foreign Law.*

- do not pass under the bequest of "household furniture," 1185.
- secus*, under a bequest of "household furniture and other household effects," 1187. See, also, 1185 note (o), 1187 note (x).
- manuscript notes bound in volumes pass by a bequest of, 1198.
- legacy of, to body corporate not liable to duty, 1536, 1537.

**BOOKSELLER,**

- executor of, bound to continue a work published in parts, 1794.

**BOROUGH-ENGLISH,**

- land descending not considered an advancement, 1500.

**BREWING UTENSILS,**

- when they pass by devise of the brewhouse, 740.

**BRIEFS,**

- money collected on for charity, whether it goes to executor, 841.

**BROTHERS AND SISTERS,**

- preferred in degree of children to grandfather, 425, 1509.
- of half blood, fully entitled, 422, 427, 1511.
- of intestate, shall share in distribution with their mother, 1508.
- though the intestate left a widow, 1508.



**BROTHERS AND SISTERS** — *continued*.

children of,

when they shall share in distribution with the intestate's mother, 1508.

when they take *per capita*, and when *per stirpes*, 1512.

representatives of,

not allowed beyond children of brothers and sisters of intestate, 1505.

nor to share with intestate's mother, 1511.

may be included in "brethren," 1098 note (*f*).

**BUILDING ACT,**

liability of executors under, 1677, 1761.

**BURDEN OF PROOF,**

meaning of, 112-114.

lies upon party propounding will, 112-114.

on the trial of an issue respecting the sanity of the testator, 20, 21 note (*x*<sup>3</sup>).

whether it changes, 21 notes (*x*<sup>3</sup>) and (*x*<sup>4</sup>), 114.

rules as to, in different American States, 21 note (*x*<sup>3</sup>).

on the trial of an issue as to undue influence, 50 and note (*c*<sup>1</sup>).

to show sanity at time of mutilation, in reference to revocation, 21 note (*y*), 42.

to establish a lucid interval, 21, 22 and note (*b*).

where the testator has been affected with temporary delirium caused by disease or otherwise, 23 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).

**BUST,**

by what words it will pass in a will, 1185 note (*m*).

**C.****CANAL SHARES,**

whether real or personal property, 811.

**CANCELLATION,**

of wills, 128 *et seq.* See tit. *Wills*.

onus of showing to be the act of the testator on those who oppose the will, 159.

mere act of, not significant, unless done *animo revocandi*, 140 note (*p*).

of part, with intent to revoke only the part cancelled, 142 note (*w*).

**CANONS,**

respecting *bona notabilia*, 289 note (*h*).

their authority, 289 note (*h*).

**CAPACITY** to make will,

same required as to wills of personal as of real estate, 12 note (*a*).

sound and disposing mind, 12 note (*a*), 40 note (*f*).

what is necessary to constitute a sound and disposing mind, 40 and note (*f*). See tit. *Sound and Disposing Mind and Memory*.

effect to be given to contents and character of will, in proof of, 26 note (*l*<sup>1</sup>), 37 note (*m*).

want of, not proved by the fact that testator entertains notions leading to disinherit for slight reasons, if the notions are not insane, 33 note (*c*).

**CAPACITY TO MAKE WILL**—*continued*.

nor by unjust, injudicious, imprudent, and unaccountable provisions in will,  
87 note (m).

**CAPIAS AD SATISFACIENDUM**,

issued in testator's lifetime, on a judgment for him, may be executed after  
his death, 1898. See, also, 901, 902.

**CAROOME**,

whether it passes to executor, 817.

**CARRIER**,

action of *assumpsit* will lie against executor of, 1730.

**CARROTS**,

whether they go to executor, 711 note (t).

**CASH**,

bequest of, 1188, note (e).

**CATTLE**,

young of,

assets in hands of executor, 1657.

fallen since death of testator, pass to specific legatee of the parent,  
1423.

what passes by bequest of a flock of sheep, 1437.

**CAVEAT**,

entry of, in probate court, 581 and note (z).

probate, &c. granted pending the *caveat* shall stand good, 581.

**CERTIORARI**,

where it lies for an executor, 905.

to remove a presentment or coroner's inquest of *felo de se*, 905, 906.

costs of, when payable to executor or prosecutor, 845.

**CHAMBERLAIN OF LONDON**. See tit. *Orphans*.**CHANDELIERS**. See tit. *Fixtures*.**CHARACTER**,

of deceased attesting witness, whose handwriting has been proved, whether  
it can be impeached, 352 note (g).

**CHARGE**. See tit. *Exoneration*.

of debts on land, where it gives executors an implied power of sale, stat.  
22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 14, 656 note (d), 2010.

what shall be sufficient to charge the real estate with debts and leg-  
acies, 1705, note (h).

**CHARITABLE USES**,

definition of charity, 1070 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

bequest to, 1055 *et seq.*

avored, 1055 note (s<sup>2</sup>), 1068 note (e).

distinction between, and other trusts, 1055 note (s<sup>2</sup>).

with regard to perpetuity, 1055 note (s<sup>2</sup>).

what gifts to, are valid, 1057 and note (f), 1070 note (l).

various religious sects, 1057 note (f).

gifts to support one religious system perverted, if applied to another,  
1057 note (f).

CHARITABLE USES — *continued*.

bequest to — *continued*.

inquiry allowed as to opinions, &c. of founders of charity, and effect given to them, 1057 note (*f*).

rights of parish as to, upon change of views and sentiments of minister, 1057 note (*f*).

stat. 9 Geo. 2, c. 36, 1058, 1059.

to what sort of property it applies, 1060–1062.

to what sort of bequests it applies, 1062 *et seq.*

bequests with a discretionary power to executors to lay out in land or otherwise, 1068.

covenant to invest upon charitable trusts, 1069.

does not apply to a devise by a freeman of London, 1069.

what are uses within the statute, 1070–1073.

*exceptions* to the statute, as to the universities, 1073.

as to land in Scotland, 1074.

bequests of land in Ireland or the colonies, 1074.

of proceeds of land to be laid out in Scotland, 1074.

idea of superstitious use foreign to the laws of the American States, 1055 note (*s*<sup>1</sup>).

cases of bequests to legatees, accompanied by bequests to charity, 1075.

gift over if the previous gift should be void under the statute, 1075.

on whom void bequests devolve, 1075.

indefinite bequests for benevolent purposes, &c. 1075–1077.

stat. 43 Eliz. c. 4, 1070.

principles of it adopted or acted upon, where, 1070 note (*i*<sup>2</sup>).

law of New York, as to, 1070 note (*i*<sup>2</sup>).

repealed in Virginia, 1090 note (*i*<sup>2</sup>).

charity not confined to objects enumerated in, 1070 notes (*i*<sup>2</sup>) and (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

charity comprehends analogous objects to those named in, 1070 notes (*i*<sup>2</sup>) and (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

gifts for promotion of science, learning, and knowledge, 1070 note (*l*).

for public library, 1070 note (*l*).

to secure the abolition of slavery, 1070 note (*l*).

for the civilization of Indians, 1070 note (*l*).

for increasing the salaries of teachers, 1070 note (*l*).

“to the poor” generally, 1070 note (*m*<sup>2</sup>).

for objects of benevolence or charity, public or private, 1070 note (*m*<sup>2</sup>).

to poor relations, 1070 note (*o*).

for the benefit of needy women, 1070 note (*o*).

for distribution in charity, 1070 note (*o*).

for erecting a town house, 1071 note (*l*).

CHARITABLE USES—*continued.*bequest to — *continued.*

- for the good of a place, 1071 note (*l*).
- for establishing a life-boat, 1071 note (*l*).
- for aid of deserving but unsuccessful literary men, 1071 note (*l*).
- to furnish land to poor at low rent, 1071 note (*l*).
- to aid the public revenue, 1071 note (*l*).
- for purposes of public or religious nature, 1072 notes (*f*) and (*l*).
- for distribution of religious books and tracts, 1072 note (*l*).
- for Sunday-school library, 1072 note (*l*).
- for the education of pious and indigent youth for the ministry, 1072 note (*l*).
- to be expended in bread for the poor, 1072 note (*l*).
- to aid in the purchase and repair of burial grounds, 1073 and notes (*o*) and (*p*), 1076 note (*k*).
- for the purposes of benevolence, as connected with charity or otherwise, 1076 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
- for the relief of human suffering and want, 1076 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
- for the use of lodge of freemasons, 1076 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
- for the cause of peace, 1076 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
- for benefit of Shakers and Friends' meeting, 1076, note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
- for aid of fugitive slaves, 1076 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
- words creating a trust for charity, 1076 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
- gift for lawful purpose of charity, becoming unlawful or impracticable after death of testator, does not result to the heirs, but is to be administered under direction of court, 1076 note (*k*).
- execution of intent *cy pres*, 1076 note (*k*).
- in what states allowed, 1076 note (*k*).
- explanation of the doctrine of *cy pres*, 1076 note (*k*).
- words of a charitable bequest to be construed in support of the charity, 1077 note (*l*).
- trust for charity cannot be renounced after acceptance, 1077 note (*l*).
- no bonds required of trustee, 1077 note (*l*).
- as to alienation of the trust property, 1077 note (*l*).
- assets not marshalled in favor of, 1720.

## CHARTERS,

- belonging to inheritance, do not pass to executor, 724.
- nor the box in which they are kept, 724.

CHATTELS PERSONAL. See tit. *Estate.*

- animate, 703 *et seq.*
- vegetable, 707 *et seq.*
- inanimate, 720 *et seq.*

CHATTELS REAL. See tit. *Estate.*

- pass to executor, 670 *et seq.*

CHATTELS REAL — *continued*.

- what passes by description of, 1178.
- executor not deemed in possession of, before entry, 635.
- of wife. See tit. *Husband and Wife*.
  - the right of husband's executor to, 690 *et seq.*
  - the right of wife's administrator to, 695.
- by condition, 696.
- by remainder, 697.
- contingent or executory interests, 697.
  - lease for life, remainder to executors of lessee, 697 *et seq.*
- bequest of estate for life in, remainder over, 1396 note (*d*).
- lease of tolls of a light-house, 811 note (*f*).

## CHESTER,

- city of,
  - excepted in stat. 4 W. & M. as to testamentary power over person-  
alty, 4.
  - mistake of legislature, 4.
  - never subject to the custom of York, 5.
  - annexed to the province by stat. 33 Hen. 8, 5.
- diocese of,
  - erected by Henry 8, out of the archdeaconries of Chester and  
Richmond, 5 note (*n*).
  - archdeaconry of, part of ancient diocese of Lichfield and Coven-  
try, 5 note (*n*).

## CHILDREN,

- who are entitled under the description of children in a will, 1089 *et seq.*
- See tit. *Legatee*.
- when confined to those existing at the date of the will, 1089 and note (*n*),  
1090 and note (*s*).
  - at death of testator, 1090 and note (*q*).
  - bequest immediate to children in a class, 1090 note (*q*).
  - when there is a preceding life estate, 1090 note (*q*).
  - bequest to children "to be born," or "hereafter to be born," or  
"that may be born," 1090 note (*s*).
- born after the period of distribution excluded, 1090, 1091 and note (*y*).
- when none are born at death of testator, 1092.
- bequest to "A. and his children," 1093 and notes (*e*<sup>1</sup>) and (*f*).
- when they take a legacy as substitutes for their parents, 1211 note (*c*).
- bequest to, without words of severance, creates a joint tenancy, 1462 note  
(*n*).
- right of, to take administration to their father, 424.
  - preferred to his parents, 424.
- right of, to distribution under the statute, 1495 *et seq.* See tit. *Distribu-  
tion*.
  - right of their representatives, 1496.
    - when they take *per capita*, and when *per stirpes*, 1497, 1512.
  - advancement to, 1498 *et seq.* See tit. *Advancement*.

**CHILDREN** — *continued*.

right of, to distribution under the customs, 1538 *et seq.* See tit. *Distribution*.

*in ventre sa mère*, 1090, 1093 note (e<sup>2</sup>), 1097 and note (a).

this term may include grandchildren, when, 1098 and note (f).

where "children" and issue used indiscriminately, 1098.

may be construed "issue," 1098 note (f).

does not embrace step-children, where testator has both, 1103 note (e).

**CHIMNEY PIECES.**

whether removable by executors, 738.

**CHOSES IN ACTION,**

definition, &c. of, 784.

an annuity is not a chose in action, but a chattel interest, in equity, 784 note (b).

to what executor is entitled, 785 *et seq.* See tits. *Actions, Estate*.

vest in executor though assigned by deceased, 843.

of wife, 846 *et seq.* See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

do not pass by a bequest of "goods" in a particular place, 1178, 1179.

nor of "all things" in a particular house, 1179.

**CHRISTIAN RELIGION,**

persons denying, formerly disabled to be executors, 238.

or administrators, 449 note (a).

**CHURCH,**

next presentation to,

when it goes to the executor, 670 *et seq.*

options of an archbishop, 673.

with relation to husband and wife, when wife is seised of the advowson, 696.

when the husband surviving shall have *quare impedit*, 874.

when assets, 1671.

**CITATION,**

of executor to prove or refuse the will, 274.

of parties interested to oppose probate of will in common form, 327.

of executor to prove will *per testes*, 334, 335.

revocation upon, 571, 575.

of next of kin, by creditor applying for administration, 440 and note (k).

residing in Scotland, 441 note (r).

citation on the Royal Exchange, 441.

of next of kin, if nobody who has a right appears to oppose the will, 334, 335.

by next of kin, contesting a will, of all persons interested "to see proceedings," 583.

or consent, if party have a prior right, requisite before administration granted to another, 448, 440 note (k).

what necessary before grant of administration *cum testamento anexo*, 467.

CITATION — *continued.*

- before grant *de bonis non*, 477.
- before grant of limited administration, 525, 526.
- of executor, to account in probate court, 2058.
- of parties interested to be present at, 2059.
- whether necessary, before suit on bond for not accounting, 540 note (c).
- service of, 448.

## CITY SMALL DEBTS COURT,

- to have same jurisdiction as a metropolitan county court in suits by creditors, &c. where the estate shall not exceed 500*l.*, stat. 28 & 29 Vict. c. 99, s. 4, 2065.

## CLASS,

- bequest to a, 1467. See, also, 1106 *et seq.*
- when class to be ascertained, 1089.
- according to appointment, where no appointment is made, 1423.
- void for remoteness as to one member, void *in toto*, 1250.

## CLOCK CASES,

- pass to executor, 738.

## CLOVER,

- within the rule of emblements, 712.

## COADJUTOR,

- office of, distinguished from that of executor, 243.

CODICIL. See *tit. Will, Construction.*

- old meaning of the term, a testament without an executor appointed, 7.
- executors may be substituted or added by, 8 note (p).
- one executor named in will, another in codicil, 8 note (p).
- derivation of the word, 7.
- modern acceptance of the term, 8.
- is part of a will, making but one testament, 8 and note (q).
- cases where it is otherwise considered, 8, 9. See, also, notes (s) and (u).
- must be executed with same solemnity as will, 8 note (q).
- included in the term "will," 8 note (q).
- how far interferes with provisions of will, 8 note (q), 185.
- not allowed to revoke clear dispositions of will by doubtful expressions, 8 note (u).
- additional legacy given by, has same incidents as original legacy, 8 notes (q) and (s), and 9 note (u), 1295.
- cannot be established as an independent will, when, 8 note (q).
- may be, when, 100 note (l).
- residue given to executors by will, an additional executor appointed by codicil, 9 note (u).
- when a cancellation of the will is so of the codicil, 153.
- when of an interlineation, is so of a codicil to the same effect, 156, 157.
- republication of will by, 211 *et seq.* See *tit. Wills.*
- does not revive adeemed legacies, 1331, 1332.

CODICIL — *continued*.

- effect of republication of prior will, upon subsequent codicils, 217.
- cumulative or substituted, 167. See, too, 217 note (p).
- effect of probate, as to will and codicil being distinct instruments, 551, 1290, 1291.

CO-EXECUTORS. See tit. *Executors*.

- appointment of, 245.
- considered as one person, 245, 946-948, 946 note (b), 1820 notes (x) and (y).
- and co-administrators, in what respects on same footing, 1837 note (i<sup>l</sup>).
- probate by one inures to the benefit of all, 381.
- giving joint and several bond, 1820 note (y).
- giving separate bonds, 1820 note (y).
- the estate of several executors, 911-914.
  - survivorship as to residue, 913-1472.
- the power of several executors, 946-958.
  - each has power under the will to execute it, 946 note (b).
  - neither has power to prevent the other, 946 note (b).
  - each may compromise or release debts, mortgages, &c. 946 note (b), 950 note (d<sup>l</sup>).
  - each may assign mortgages, and promissory notes of the estate, 946 notes (b) and (c).
  - each may assign or release joint obligations given to all, 946 note (b).
  - how far acts of one create liability on another, 949 note (i<sup>l</sup>).
  - one not ordinarily liable for waste, &c. committed by another, 949 note (i<sup>l</sup>).
- all the executors cannot sue on a promise made to one of them, 881, 912, note (f).
- several executors cannot sue on a promise made jointly with one of them, 912.
- when one executor may sue another, 956, 957 note (p), 958 note (s<sup>1</sup>).
- in equity, 1911.
- must all join in bringing actions, 956 and note (k).
  - unless they have renounced, stat. 20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 79, 286, 956 note (k), 1867.
- no more need be sued than have administered, 1935, 1936.
- surviving executors entitled to receive money without a discharge from executor of deceased co-executor, 913.
- how far one can impose a charge on the rest, 949 and note (i<sup>l</sup>), 1820 note (y).
- one cannot bind the others by his contract, 949.
- survivorship amongst, 951.
- exercise of power given to, 951-957. See tits. *Executor, Power*.
- when liable for the *devastavit* of each other, 1820 *et seq.*, 1820 note (y).
- notice to one is notice to all, 1821.
- should not lend to each other, 1809, 1810.
  - nor intrust property to each other by any act or agreement, 1822 note (g).



CO-EXECUTORS—*continued.*

- receipt of assets by one does not charge the other, 1821.
- nor entry by one into leasehold, 949.
- joining in executing power of sale, 1833 note (*u*).
- in a receipt for money, 1837 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
- pleas by, 1943.
- judgment against, 1978.

## COFFIN,

- property in, 723.

## COGNOVIT ACTIONEM,

- is revoked by the death of the party giving it, 2003.
- judgment cannot be entered on, *nunc pro tunc*, 2003.

COLLECTING THE EFFECTS. See tit. *Devastavit*.

- duty of executor or administrator, 986.
- and keeping them distinct from his own, 986 note (*l*<sup>1</sup>).
- bringing actions for that purpose, 986.
- not bound to attempt collection of bad debts, 986 note (*m*).
- must use reasonable diligence to prevent bar of statute of limitations, 986.

## COLLIGENDUM,

- letters *ad*, 275, 445.

## COLONIES,

- probate of will here will not extend to, 365. See 1664 *et seq.*
- nor a grant of administration, 429.
- what passes by bequest of "plantation" in, 1199.
- property in, when assets in the hands of the executor, 1664-1667.

## COMMISSION,

- when executor entitled to, 1855-1859. See tit. *Allowance*.

## COMMISSION OF LUNACY,

- presumption arising from, 37, may be rebutted, 37 and note (*o*).

COMPENSATION. See tit. *Allowance*.

## COMPETENCY,

- of attesting witnesses to wills, 67 note (*b*<sup>1</sup>), 87 note (*i*<sup>3</sup>).
- in Massachusetts, they must be persons who at the time of attestation would be competent at common law to testify concerning the subject-matter, 87 note (*i*<sup>3</sup>).
- wife of legatee and wife of testator, incompetent, 87 note (*i*<sup>3</sup>).
- heir-at-law, who is disinherited, 87 note (*i*<sup>3</sup>).
- of persons of tender age, 87 note (*i*<sup>3</sup>). See tit. *Witnesses*.

## COMPOUNDING,

- of debts by executor or administrator, 1799, 1800 and note (*g*<sup>2</sup>), 1801 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).

## CONCLUSIVE,

- effect of probate proceedings. See tit. *Probate*.

## CONDITION,

- conditional executors, 252.
- conditional will, 188.

CONDITION — *continued*.

chattels real by, pass to executor, 696.

suits accruing by, to executor, 885.

when to be regarded as a conditional limitation, 1269 *et seq.*

## CONDITIONAL LEGACIES,

definition of, 1258.

how condition created in a will, 1258.

condition precedent or subsequent, 1258 and notes (*e*<sup>1</sup>) and (*h*), 1259.

condition subsequent may defeat a contingent interest, 1259.

considered as trusts imposed rather than as conditions, 1260.

legacy to one, and in case of his death to another, 1260–1263 and notes (*o*), (*t*), and (*a*).

impossible conditions precedent, 1263.

subsequent, 1264.

illegal conditions precedent, 1264.

subsequent, 1265.

repugnant conditions, 1265, 1267 note (*u*).

that devisee shall not aliene, 1266 notes (*n*<sup>2</sup>) and (*o*) and (*g*).

that estate shall not be subject to attachment or conveyance, 1266 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>).

performance of conditions precedent, 1267–1272.

reasonable time for performance, 1268 note (*z*).

substantially, though the very condition has not happened, 1267.

of conditions subsequent, 1272.

liability of one who accepts a devise on condition to pay legacy or annuity, 1272 note (*n*).

condition subsequent of death of legatee before the legacy becomes "payable," 1273.

condition not to dispute the will, 1274.

conditions in restraint of marriage, 1275, 1277 notes (*n*), (*o*), and (*o*<sup>1</sup>).

when valid, 1275.

in restraint of widow's marriage, 1276, 1277 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>).

conditions and limitations distinguished, 1268 note (*c*), 1269 notes (*d*) and (*e*), 1276.

when rejected as inapplicable, 1277.

performance of, 1278–1280.

when consent to be obtained, 1278.

of whom, 1278.

may be presumed after lapse of time, 1278 note (*x*).

consequence of death of one of several whose consent is required, 1278 and notes (*y*) and (*a*).

what consent sufficient, 1278, 1280.

unreasonable refusal to consent by executors, controlled in equity, 1280.

legacies to executors, 1280, 1286.

given in that character, are on condition of accepting office, 1280, 1281.

CONDITIONAL LEGACIES—*continued.*

legacies to executors—*continued.*

makes no difference that the executor is unable from infirmity to prove the will, 1281 note (g).

where a legacy is considered as given to an executor in that character, 1281–1286.

what is sufficient assumption of the office to satisfy the condition, 1284 and note (i).

by way of annuity for his trouble, 1286.

liability of executor legatee accepting office, 1287.

of a handsome gratuity void for uncertainty, 1287.

conditional on paying testator's debts, 1287.

legacies directed to be enjoyed in a particular mode, or applied in a particular way, 1287, 1288 note (c).

rule as to absolute gifts with a revocation, or qualification of them, for purposes which fail, 1288 and note (a).

## CONFEDERATE MONEY,

converting assets, or taking pay for assets sold, in, 1819 note (g<sup>2</sup>).

## CONFIRMATION,

of will made under undue influence, by subsequent recognition or adoption, when testator relieved from the influence, 51 note (d).

CONFLICT OF LAWS. See *tit. Construction, Foreign Law, Laws.*

## CONIES,

in a warren, when they pass to executor, 705.

CONJOINT WILLS. See *tit. Mutual Wills.*

## CONSANGUINITY,

how calculated, 419 *et seq.*, 1505 *et seq.*

## CONSERVATORY,

whether a fixture, 745.

## CONSIDERATION,

what is sufficient to make an executor personally liable, 1778–1783.

for promise to answer for debt, &c. of another person need not appear in writing, *stat. 19 & 20 Vict. c. 97, s. 3*, 1784 note (g).

## CONSTRUCTION,

same at law and in equity, 1088 note (m).

of wills of personalty, 1078 *et seq.* See *tit. Legacy.*

must be according to the law of that country where testator domiciled, 371 and note (i), 1088. See, also, 369, 370.

jurisdiction of courts of equity as to, 294 and note (a<sup>1</sup>).

of will directed to be determined by executors, 294 note (y<sup>2</sup>).

general rules of, 1078 *et seq.*

general principle, 1078.

technical rules to be applied only in cases of doubt, 1078 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

intent of testator, object of rules to ascertain, 1078 note (a<sup>2</sup>).

this intent to be collected from the will, 1078 note (a<sup>3</sup>).

great indulgence allowed to ignorance, negligence, and want of skill of testators, 1078 note (a<sup>4</sup>).

**CONSTRUCTION** — *continued.*

of wills of personality — *continued.*

general rules of — *continued.*

effect of failure to ascertain meaning of will, 1078 note (a<sup>4</sup>).

uncertainty, 1078 note (a<sup>4</sup>).

technical words not necessary, 1078 and note (c), 1088 note (m).

technical words to be taken in their legal sense, 1079, 1080 and note (j), 1088 note (m).

words applicable to [personal, may be held to include real estate, 1079, note (c).

“legacy” to include devise of land, 1079 note (c).

“residuary legatee,” “devisee,” “legatee,” “distributee,” 1079 note (c).

“effects,” “worldly goods,” may pass real estate, 1079 note (c).

particular intent to be sacrificed to general, 1080 and note (l).

origin and explanation of this rule and objections to it, 1081 note (o).

how it has been applied, 1080 notes (k) and (l).

must be on the whole will, and not of disjointed parts, 1081, 1088 note (m).

will and codicil to be construed together, 1081 note (r).

effect to be given to codicil, 1081 note (r).

when the same words occur more than once, 1082, 1088 note (m).

the same words as applied to real and as applied to personal estate, 1082 note (x).

when one bequest construed with reference to another, 1083 and note (y).

effect must be given to every word, 1084, 1088 note (m).

reference may be had to revoked or to void provision in will, 1084 note (b), 1087 note (f).

effect of some referential expressions, 1084 note (b).

reference to some other document, 1084 note (b).

two parts utterly irreconcilable, latter must prevail, 1084 and note (e), 1088 note (m).

when words may be transposed, supplied, or rejected, 1084, 1085, 1088 note (m).

one word substituted for another, 1085 and notes (i) and (k).

“or” construed “and,” 1085.

“if” construed “when,” 1086.

other instances, 1086 and note (s).

terms which, applied to realty, give an estate tail, give the absolute interest if applied to personalty, 1106 and note (w), 1107.

CONSTRUCTION — *continued.*

of wills of personalty — *continued.*

general rules of — *continued.*

mistakes and omissions, how to be corrected, 1087, 1088 note (m),  
1151 *et seq.*, 1199 *et seq.*

not by reference to instructions for the will, 1087.

how far original will may be examined to determine construction,  
569 note (u<sup>1</sup>).

punctuation, 569 note (u<sup>1</sup>).

bequest not to be controlled by reason assigned, 1087.

by inference from context, 1087.

by its unmeritorious nature, 1087.

effect of intent declared in preamble, 1087 note (e).

where words are capable of twofold construction, 1088.

that construction is to be adopted which prefers kin to  
strangers, 1088 note (j).

heir not to be disinherited without express devise or neces-  
sary implication, 1088 notes (j) and (m).

as nearly as possible by the general rules of inheritance, 1088  
note (j).

presumption that testator did not intend to die intestate as  
to any of his property when he has made a will, 1088  
note (j).

testator presumed to intend a benefit to object of gift, 1088  
note (k).

construction of will made by person domiciled in foreign  
country, 1088 and notes (l) and (m).

will speaks from death of testator, when, and when from  
period of execution, 1088 and note (m).

Mr. Jarman's summary of rules for interpretation of wills,  
1088 note (m).

courts will look to circumstances under which testator makes  
will—to the state of his property and family, 1088  
note (m).

implication admissible, when, 1088 note (m).

in cases of ambiguity or doubt, 1088 note (m).

effect of inconvenience or absurdity of a devise, 1088  
note (m).

rules of construction not to be strained, 1088 note (m).

favor or disfavor of objects is not to affect construction, 1088  
note (m).

words, in general, to be taken in the ordinary and grammat-  
ical sense, 1088 note (m).

against total intestacy, 1088 note (m).

words additional imply additional meaning, 1088 note (m).

not to be varied by subsequent events, 1088 note (m).

when devises are to be construed separately, 1088 note (m).

CONSTRUCTION — *continued.*

of wills of personalty — *continued.*

general rules of — *continued.*

where intent cannot operate in full, it must take effect as far as possible, 1088 note (m).

testator presumed to calculate that dispositions of will shall take effect rather than the contrary, 1088 note (m).

where intention cannot take effect in part, 1088.

parol evidence, when admissible, 1153, 1155, 1201, 1202, 1293–1295, 1302, 1088 note (m).

to show facts surrounding testator, in order to place the expositor as nearly as possible in situation of person whose language is to be interpreted, 1153 note (u).

the will shall take effect, as if executed immediately before the death (1 Vict. c. 26), 1331. See, also, 220, 221.

of wills made by testators domiciled in foreign countries, 1088.

## CONSUMABLE ARTICLES,

bequest of, for life and in remainder, 1396 and note (c<sup>1</sup>).

what are, 1396 and notes (d<sup>1</sup>) and (e).

## CONTENTS,

of will, effect to be given to, as proof of capacity, 26 note (l), 360 note (n).

will cannot be avoided because imprudent, unreasonable, or unaccountable, 37 note (m), 360 note (n).

may be apparently wise, but will be without effect, if testator was not of sound mind, 360 note (n).

proper matters of observation, and sometimes furnish controlling proof as to the state of testator's mind, 360 note (n).

of other wills of testator, not offered for probate, have been admitted on question of capacity and undue influence, 360 note (n).

## CONTINGENT ESTATES,

in chattels real, pass to executor, 697.

lease for life, remainder to executors of lessee, 697 *et seq.*

contingent interests,

pass to executors, 887.

contingent legacies, 888, 1203 *et seq.* See tit. *Lapsed Legacies.*

## CONTINGENT DEBTS,

their rank in payment by executor, 1022.

how to be regarded with respect to legacies, &c. 1341 *et seq.*

CONTINGENT LEGACIES, 1203 *et seq.* See tit. *Lapsed Legacies.*

## CONTINGENT WILL, 188.

## CONTRIBUTION, 1647, 1648, 1773.

## CONVERSION, 1163 note (b).

of property in equity, 657.

land considered as money, and money as land, 658 and note (f<sup>1</sup>), 665 note (m).

what amounts to a direction for, 658 and note (h).

CONVERSION — *continued*.

of property in equity — *continued*.

testator cannot alter legal character of real property by a mere direction that it shall be considered a part of his personal estate, 657, 658 note (*h*).

where there is an option to invest money in lands, or personal securities bearing interest, 658 note (*h*).

implication that conversion was intended, 658 note (*h*), 662 note (*b*).  
direction that money shall be placed at interest until land is purchased, 658 note (*h*).

direction for sale or purchase only when, or in case, trustees think fit, or with approbation of others, 658 note (*h*).

effect of trustees declining to exercise their discretion, 658 note (*h*).  
cannot frustrate intended conversion, 658 note (*h*).

partial conversion, 658 note (*h*).

mere power of sale or purchase does not change nature of property, 658 note (*h*).

constructive conversion, 658 note (*h*).

when testator has given absolute discretion to sell or not, 658 note (*h*).  
property remains in its actual state until discretion is exercised, 658 note (*h*).

land directed to be sold in certain event is converted when the event happens, 658 note (*h*).

money directed to be laid out in land, descends to heir and is subject to curtesy, though not actually laid out, 658 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).

passes by devise of lands, tenements, &c. 658 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).

and will not pass under bequest of mere personalty, 658 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).

lands directed to be sold and proceeds to be invested in other lands, 658 note (*g*<sup>1</sup>).

land contracted to be sold, 659, 660 and note (*o*), 1763.

the law is the same where the sale is compulsory, 660 note (*s*), 665 note (*m*).

the mode of conversion is immaterial, 665 note (*m*).

money covenanted to be laid out in land, 661.

"out and out," by will, 661, 662 and note (*b*).

for particular purposes which fail, 663.

surplus of money arising from sale of land for special purpose, 668 note (*z*).

mixed fund from produce of sale of real and personal estate, 663–666.  
by trustees of an infant, 666.

real property purchased with partnership capital, 666.

by committees of a lunatic, 667.

of property of lunatic under 16 & 17 Vict. c. 70, and 7 & 8 Vict. c. 18, 668.

election to take it in actual state, 658 note (*h*).

facts and circumstances amounting to election, 658 note (*h*).

the crown has no equity to call for, 658 note (*h*).

CONVERSION — *continued.*

of assets into *3l. per cents.*

duty of executor to make, 1394.

consequences of neglecting to do so, 1811.

no public securities in United States answering to the requisitions of English courts of equity, 1394 note (*d*).

rule recognized in Massachusetts, 1394 note (*d*).

investments authorized by stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 32, &c. &c. 1811.

of property by *devastavit*, 2053.

when to be considered as made as a basis to calculate income of tenant for life, 1391 note (*l*), 1392 note (*s*), 1395 note (*x*).

## CONVICT FELON,

legacy to, who is entitled to receive, 1421.

legacy to wife of, 1413 note (*b*).

wife of, may make a will, 63.

## COPYHOLD,

assets marshalled against, 1714.

whether executors can distrain for rent out of, 930.

finer,

action for, passes to executor of lord, 841.

executor must be admitted and pay his fine, 1769.

## COPYRIGHT,

executor's interest in, 817.

## CORN,

action for cutting growing corn,

does not survive to executor, 793.

*secus*, if cut and carried away, 793.

when growing corn passes to executor, 710. See tit. *Emblements*.

## CORONER'S INQUEST,

when removable by *certiorari* and traversable by executors, 905, 906.

## CORPORATION,

aggregate,

whether it can be executor, 228, 229.

appointments of *syndics* to receive administration, 229.

sole,

may be executor, 229.

lease to, and his successors, goes to his executors, 675.

chattels which go to executors like heir-looms, 727.

*choses in action* go to his executors and not his successors, 842.

## COSTS,

in cases contested, either in probate court, or court of appeal, 340 note (*p*), 594, note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).

common rule in probate causes in Massachusetts, is not to allow costs to either party, 376 note (*x*).

as to allowing executor expenses of litigation *bonâ fide* incurred in support of will, whether probate is granted or not, 376 note (*y*), 594 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).



COSTS — *continued.*

- of administrator, incurred in *bonâ fide* litigation, and expenses, and counsel fees, 594 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).
- in probate court,
  - party citing executor to prove in solemn form, when liable to, 339.
  - distinction between next of kin and legatee, 339.
  - in what cases decreed out of the estate of deceased, 375, 376.
  - on what scale to be taxed, 375 note (*u*).
- in actions at law *by* executors and administrators,
  - in what cases they are liable to, upon a nonsuit or verdict against them, 1894–1897 and notes.
    - stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 31, 1895.
    - construction of this act, 1895, 1896.
    - for misbehavior in conduct of suit, 1897.
    - on a discontinuance, 1897.
    - for not proceeding to trial, 1897.
    - on judgment of *non pros*, 1897.
    - upon interlocutory motions, 1897.
    - the court will not suspend the payment until plaintiff has received assets, 1897.
  - when removed from trust, before judgment, 592 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).
  - the executor may be compelled to give security for, 1897.
  - costs in error, 1897.
- in actions at law *against* executors and administrators,
  - for the defendant, 1979.
  - executor's liability to costs, 1979.
  - he will be entitled to, if he succeeds on any one plea which goes to the whole action, 1980.
  - on judgment of assets *in futuro*, 1981, 1983 note (*e*).
- in suits in equity *by*, and *against* executors, &c. 2033 *et seq.*
  - in administration suit, 2034, 2035.
    - out of what fund, 2041 note (*a*).
    - of the executor out of the fund, 2034.
    - of the plaintiff out of the fund, 2036–2039.
    - of creditors and next of kin coming in under the decree, 2040, 2041.
  - when executor refused them, 2035.
  - when executor ordered to pay them, 2035, and note (*c*).
  - in what cases the plaintiff shall pay the executor's costs, 2042.
  - under trustee relief act, 1901 note (*k*).
- in cases involving questions of doubt arising from ambiguity of will, 2038 note (*m*).
- in cases where executor files bill for directions as to duties under will, 2038 note (*m*).
- in cases where trustee has private interest of his own, 2039 note (*n*).
- executor cannot sue *in formâ pauperis*, 1928.
  - in county court, 2068–2070.

**COUNSEL FEES.** See *tit. Costs, Allowances.*

reasonable sums paid for counsel fees, will be allowed in the accounts of executors and administrators, 1860 note (k).

where effect of allowing such fees is to throw expense on those who have no interest, or an adverse interest, 1860 note (k).

where they have been paid by administrator, *pendente lite*, to sustain a will, 1860 note (k).

paid by an executor to support a will which turns out to be invalid, 1860 note (k).

paid by administrator, to establish his right to administer, 1860 note (k).

incurred by one representative and paid by his successor, 1860 note (k).

**COUNTS,**

joinder of,

in actions by executors 1872 *et seq.*

in actions against executors 1939 *et seq.*

**COUNTY COURT,**

where personalty is under 200*l.* and real estate under 300*l.*, has jurisdiction of the court of probate, stat. 21 & 22 Vict. c. 95, s. 10, 801.

registrar to transmit certificate of decree for grant or revocation of probate, 298, 299.

judge to decide causes and enforce judgments as in other cases, 299.

affidavit of facts giving jurisdiction conclusive, unless disproved while the matter is pending, 299.

application for probate or revocation of probate may in every case be made to the probate court instead of to the county court, 300 and note (h).

rules and orders for procedure to be made by the judges now having authority for the like purpose, 300, 301.

appeal from county court to court of probate, 302.

any executor may sue and be sued in county court as if he were a party in his own right, stat. 9. & 10 c. Vict. 95, s. 66, 1898, 2001.

legacy, &c. not exceeding 50*l.* recoverable in, 1935.

a question of *devastavit* may be tried in such a suit, 1935 note (z).

jurisdiction in equity to be exercised by, in suits by creditors, &c. where estate shall not exceed 500*l.*, stat. 28 & 29 Vict. c. 99, s. 1, 2064.

and in proceeding for a stay of suit at law to recover debt provable under an administration decree, 2064.

in suits under this act, judge, &c. of county courts to have power of judge, &c. of court of chancery, 2064.

vice chancellor to have power to order transfer of suits from county court to court of chancery, 2065.

city small debts court to have same jurisdiction as metropolitan county court, 2065.

judge of county court may order any legacy, &c. to which infant or person beyond the seas is entitled to be paid into Bank of England pursuant to sect. 32 of 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, 2065.

COUNTY COURT — *continued.*

jurisdiction in equity to be exercised by, &c. — *continued.*

power to enforce judgments of county courts in equity, 2066.

where amount of subject-matter of suit exceeds limit, suit may be re-mitted to court of chancery, 2066.

in which of the county courts proceedings shall be taken, 2067.

transfer of suit from one county court to another, 2067.

power to frame rules and orders under 19 & 20 Vict. c. 108, 2067 and note (a).

scale of costs to be framed by the judges, 2068.

parties aggrieved may appeal, 2069.

## COURT OF ARCHES,

what it is, 572 note (c).

COURT OF PROBATE. See *tit. Probate, Administration, County Court, Issue, Judge.*

substituted for the ecclesiastical courts universally by 20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, 290–292.

courts of record, 291 and note (o\*), 292 note (o\*).

remarks upon the character and sources of jurisdiction of, in Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire, 292 note (o\*).

issues formed for trial of questions of fact, 292 note (o\*).

testamentary jurisdiction to be exercised in the queen's name by this court, 291.

to have throughout all England the same powers as the prerogative court of Canterbury, 291.

to have the power of citation, 274.

as to the jurisdiction in which probate is to be obtained or administration granted, 289 note (h), 290 note (m), 291 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

may follow debtor, when, 289 note (h), 291 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

not creditor, 289 note (h).

in county where lands lie, when, 291 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

probate cannot be granted in two different counties in same state, 290 note (m), 291 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

practice of the court to be according to that of the prerogative court, 323 and note (b).

rules and orders to be made for regulating procedure of, 323.

rules of evidence in common law courts to be observed, 344.

the executor cannot rely on his right in any other court without the production of the copy of the will certified under the seal of the court, 292.

but he derives his title from the will and not from the probate, 293.

courts of equity are courts of construction of wills, 294 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

and so were the ecclesiastical courts, 294.

but the court of probate is not, 294.

court of probate has power to require attendance and examine witnesses, &c. 294.

and to order production of deeds, &c. 295.

COURT OF PROBATE — *continued.*

- court of probate has power to require attendance, &c. — *continued.*
  - and of testamentary papers, 312.
  - and to enforce orders, 295 and note (c).
  - to issue execution for costs, 295 note (c).
  - an order of the probate court for payment of money not a charge on land within 1 & 2 Vict. c. 110, s. 13, 295 note (c).
- judge of the court may amend grants of probate made before January 11, 1858, 295.
- may correct errors or mistakes in his decrees and proceedings, 571 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- grants made before the probate act which were void or voidable by reason of there being *bona notabilia*, valid, if not already revoked, 295, 296.
  - which did not affect the whole property, valid on payment of additional stamp duty, 297 and note (f).
- probate may be granted of personal estate not affected by former grants expressly limited, 297 and note (g).
- second and subsequent grants to be made where the original will or letters of administration are deposited, 297.
- disputed will to be lodged in registry of, 315.
- place of deposit of wills under control of, 315.
  - of living persons, 318.
- calendars of grants of probate, &c. to be made in principal registry of, 315 note (m).
  - copies of calendars to be transmitted to district registries, &c. 316 note (m).
- official copies of wills to be obtained on payment of fees, 316 note (m).
- judges of present ecclesiastical courts and others to transmit all wills, &c. to the registry of, 317.
- requisitions may be issued for the transmission of a single paper, 317, 318.
- district registries to be established under control of, 320.
- probates, &c. may be granted in common form by district registrars upon affidavit that testator had a fixed place of abode, 321 note (y).
  - affidavit to be conclusive for authorizing grant of probate, 321.
- district registrar not to make grants when there is a contention, 321.
- proof of wills in solemn form is contentious business, 332.
- practice respecting, 333 *et seq.* See tit. *Probate.*
- contentious and non-contentious business distinguished, 332 and note (g).
- must transmit to principal registry notices of applications for probate and receive certificate, 322.
  - also lists of grants of probate, 323.
  - to preserve original wills, 323.
- appeal from, to the house of lords, 573, 574.
- rules respecting appeals, 574.

COURT OF PROBATE — *continued.*

no suit for legacies to be entertained by, 2062.

nor for distribution of residues, 2063.

account must be rendered in, 2057 note (b).

cannot be settled in suit on probate bond, 2057 note (b).

power of, to correct account subsequently to settlement, 2060 note (z).

object, practice, and effect of accounting in, 2060 note (z), 2062 note (i).

manner of stating final account in, 2060 note (z).

order or decree of, necessary to suit on bond, 2057 note (b).

how far conclusive as to matter of account, 2060 note (z).

and other matters within its jurisdiction, 2062 note (i).

jurisdiction with regard to legacies and distributive shares, 2062 note (i).

jurisdiction of, in Massachusetts, extended, 2062 note (i).

## COURT OF REQUESTS,

executor defendant not within the act respecting, 2000.

## COURTS BARON,

certain under the old law had probate of wills, 288.

## COUSINS,

who can take under description of, 1104.

"first and second cousins," 1105.

degree of kindred of, 420 *et seq.*

a first cousin, twice removed, is in the same degree as a second cousin,  
422 note (l), 1105.

## COVENANT,

actions of, survive for executor, 785, 786.

not where the covenant is joint, 1864.

unless the interest is several, 1864, 1865.

where actions on covenants real descend to the heir, 801.

immaterial that a breach was incurred in ancestor's life, 803.

unless the personal estate was prejudiced, 803, 804.

to pay rent when the executor cannot sue on, 817 note (d).

where actions on covenants real pass to executors, 803, 804, 808.

on covenant with testator to perform something on a day which happens after his death, 883.

actions of, survive against executor, 1721.

though not named, 1723.

though testator himself not bound, 1727, 1728.

unless personal, as a covenant to instruct an apprentice, 1724, 1725.

joint covenants, 1740 *et seq.*

covenant to repair, 1726.

covenant to discharge a lessee of quit rents, 1726.

covenant concerning the realty, 1749, 1750.

as between landlord and tenant, 1750.

after assignment, 1750, 1758.

for non-payment of rent, 1758 *et seq.*

when executor individually liable, 1752 *et seq.*

on covenant to repair, 1759.

COVENANT—*continued.*

- debts due by,
  - their rank as to priority of payment by executor, 1015, 1016.
- implied,
  - no action lies against executor upon, unless broken in lifetime of testator, 1751.
  - what shall constitute, 1751 note (o).
- executor selling lease entitled to require from purchaser a covenant for indemnity, 1751.
- not bound to enter into covenants for title, 1751.

COVERTURE. See tit. *Husband and Wife.*CREDITOR. See tit. *Debts.*

- citation of executor by, to prove the will, 311.
- cannot dispute the validity of a will unless he has had a grant of administration, 444.
  - nor deny an interest, 440 note (i), 444.
  - secus*, where he has a grant of administration, 444.
- when he is bound to bring in the administration, 444, note (m).
- grant of administration to, 440 *et seq.* See tit. *Administration.*
  - effect of, as to the debt, 1316.
  - not to be revoked for a creditor of a larger amount, 582.
- can go into another state, take out administration, prove claim, &c. 440 note (h).
- appointed executor,
  - effect of appointment, 1316–1318.
    - of one of several debtors, 1317.
  - creditor sole executor, 1316.
    - one of several executors, 1318.
  - action by creditor, administration for his own debt, against executor *de son tort*, 1318.
  - if he renounce he may sue his co-executor, 287.
- appointed administrator, 1317 note (d).
- legacies to creditors who have compounded with testator have no preference in abatement to other legacies, 1366.
- bequest to, duty on, 1633.
  - whether it abates by death of creditor, 1205.
- his right to make a legatee refund, 1451.
- priority of creditor to all legatees, 1340 *et seq.*
  - as to voluntary debts, 1015, 1340.
  - as to contingent debts, 1341–1344.
    - when a legatee must give security against, 1344.
- stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 27, effect of this enactment, 1345 note (n).
- as to debts of which the executor has no notice, 1348 *et seq.*
- after notice to send in claims, executor not to be liable for debts after distribution of the assets of which he had not then notice, stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 29, 1355.

**CREDITOR** — *continued.*

priority of creditor to all legatees — *continued.*

how far it may be barred in a suit for administration of assets, 1356–1358, 2008.

he may prove his debt as long as there is a fund in court, &c. 1357.

case where some legatees have received their legacies, and some not, 1357.

who misleads an executor cannot complain of a deficiency in the assets, 1352–1355.

*bill in equity by*, 2007 *et seq.* See *tit. Remedies, Bill.*

for his own demand, 2007. See, also, 1037.

on behalf of himself and the other creditors, 2007 *et seq.*

case where plaintiff entitled to an immediate decree for his debt, 2007, 2008.

costs in, 2033 *et seq.* See *tit. Costs.*

may compromise it, 2012.

several concurrent suits, 2012.

effect of decree on creditors who do not prove, 2008.

payment by executor after, 1036.

creditors paid in part before, shall receive no more until the others are paid proportionably, 1038.

may obtain an order for the administration of the personal estate under 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 45, 2009, 2010.

and of the real estate devised for sale, 2010.

or charged with payment of debts, 2010.

suit in county court by, where estate to be administered shall not exceed 500*l.*, 2064.

**CRIME,**

how far incapacitates to make will, 63–65.

person under sentence of death may make will in Kentucky, 65 note (*q*).

**CROPS.** See *tit. Emblements.*

included in devise of land on which it is growing, 709 note (*n*).

when pass to executor and when to heir, 710 note (*m*).

when pass to purchaser of the land, 710 note (*m*).

**CROWN,**

debts due to,

their precedence, 991.

what sort of debts, 992, 993.

by simple contract, 993.

whether debts having precedence by statute are to be preferred to crown debts, 995.

ancient jewels of, 722.

**CUMULATIVE LEGACIES,**

doctrine of, 1289. See, also, 169, 170, as to legacies in codicils.

intention of testators, rule of construction, 1289.

how intention is ascertained, 1289 note (*d*).

**CUMULATIVE LEGACIES** — *continued.*

doctrine of — *continued.*

where there is no internal evidence of intention, 1289.

where there is internal evidence of intention, 1291.

parol evidence of testator's intention, 1291 note (n), 1293–1295.

when a codicil giving a substituted legacy shall be considered as revoking a former codicil, 167 *et seq.*

**CURRENCY,**

in what legacies to be paid, 1433 *et seq.*, 1433 note (y<sup>1</sup>).

**CUSTOMS,**

of London and York, distribution under, 1527 *et seq.* See *tit. Distribution, Assets.*

**"CY-PRES,"**

performance of condition, 1267.

cases where the court can execute the intent, 1076 note (k).

**D.****DAMAGES,**

recovered against executors for injuries by deceased to the property of another, in what order payable, 1026.

for dilapidations against the executors of a late incumbent of a benefice, 1026.

**DATE,**

none necessary to a will, and a wrong one does not vitiate it, 104 note (z<sup>1</sup>).

**DE RATIONABILI PARTE BONORUM,**

writ of,

lay at common law for a wife and children to recover their thirds of the personality against the executors of the husband, 2.

form of writ, 2.

sons and daughters might join in the writ as "*pueri*," 2 note (e).

controversy whether this was the general law, or only prevailing by custom in particular places, 2.

alterations in the law respecting this writ, 3, 4.

**DEAF,**

capacity of, to make a will, 17.

**DEAF AND DUMB,**

capacity of, to make a will, 17, 18.

evidence to prove will of, 17 note (d).

presumption as to capacity of, 17 note (d).

as to wills of persons deaf, dumb, and blind, 17 note (d).

caution to be observed in preserving proof of fairness in making, 17 note (d).

**DEATH,**

action by executor against person who caused the death of the testator, 796 *et seq.*

in the American States, 796 note (a<sup>3</sup>), 797 note (d<sup>1</sup>). See *tit. Action.*



DEATH — *continued.*

action by executor against person who caused the death of the testator — *continued.*

matters that may be considered in estimating the amount of damages in such cases, 797 note (*d*).

of plaintiff, consequences of, 890–905. See *tit.* *Abatement, Revivor.*

before final judgment, 890 *et seq.*

between verdict and judgment, 891.

entry of judgment, *nunc pro tunc*, 893–895.

after interlocutory and before final judgment, 895–898.

after final judgment, 898, 1898.

after charging defendant in execution, 900.

of a party to an action of ejectment, 1999.

of one of several plaintiffs pending suit, 902.

after judgment and before execution, 902.

of defendant, consequences of, 1996.

between verdict and judgment, 1996.

after interlocutory and before final judgment, 1996.

after final judgment, 1991.

in execution, 1994.

of two persons by shipwreck or other common cause; which is to be taken to survive, 855, 464, note (*q*). See, also, 1204 note (*e*).

of testator, when presumed, 318 note (*s*).

absence from place of established residence without being heard from seven years or more, 318 note (*s*).

presumption arises after the seven years have expired, 318 note (*s*).

may be rebutted, 318 note (*s*).

no presumption as to the particular time of death, 318 note (*s*).

burden of proving death at any particular time within the seven years, 318 note (*s*).

as to the kind of evidence to prove the death within the seven years, 318 note (*s*).

probate court in granting administration does not adjudicate that the person is dead, 562 note (*b*), 1887 note (*i*).

letters testamentary not admissible to prove death as between strangers, 562 note (*b*).

in suit by executor or administrator no evidence of death of testator or intestate required, if there be no denial of plaintiff's right to sue by plea or answer, 562 note (*b*).

of legatee, 318 note (*s*), 1420.

of plaintiff or defendant in error, 1999.

of attorney, consequences of, 909 note (*p*).

operates as revocation of continuing guaranty, 1770.

authority of attorney determined by death of client, 909.

"In case of the death" of a legatee, meaning of this expression, 1260 and note (*o*), 1261 note (*i*), 1263 note (*a*).

DEATH—*continued.*

of witness, or all the witnesses to a will, proof of handwriting, 347 note (g). See tit. *Handwriting*.

DEBT. See tits. *Insolvent, Preference.*

payment of debts by executor or administrator, 988 *et seq.*

all debts must be paid before any legacies, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>), 1340 *et seq.*

See tit. *Creditor*.

contingent debts, 1022, 1024, 1341 *et seq.*

legatee must give security against, 1344.

debts of which executor has no notice, 1026, 1348, 1798 *et seq.*, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

executor not liable for debts after distribution of assets of which he had not then notice. Stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 29, 1355.

limit of time before suit against executor or administrator after appointment, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

in Massachusetts, one year, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

after year, he may safely pay claims, without liability to those who have given no notice, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

if he pays claims before proper time for presentation of others has elapsed, at his own risk, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

when duty to represent estate insolvent, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

effect of allowing judgment to be recovered before representation of insolvency, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

when assets have been exhausted in paying preferred charges, the fact may be pleaded in bar of suit for other claims, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

so the fact that the assets have been exhausted in paying debts of which notice is given in proper time, may be shown in bar of claims subsequently presented, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

if some assets remain after such payment, how applied in case of such subsequent claims, 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

preference in payment to one not entitled to it is a *devastavit*, 989 note (h).

payment of debt by executor or administrator in good faith, 1088 note (n).

law of country, where executor or administrator acts, governs as to payment of debts, 990 note (k<sup>1</sup>), 998 note (h).

voluntary debts, 1015, 1340.

priority of debts among themselves, 989 *et seq.*

with respect to foreign assets, 989.

funeral expenses, 988.

expenses of probate, &c. 988.

costs of administration suit, 989.

debts due to the crown, 991, 993.

solicitor's lien, 991.

debts to which priority is given by statutes, 993-995.

to commissioners of stamps where credit has been given for the duty on probate or letters of administration, 993.

DEBT — *continued.*

priority of debts among themselves — *continued.*

debts to which priority is given by statutes — *continued.*

to the parish by overseer, 994.

to the post office, 994.

to a friendly society, 994.

to paving commissioners, 995.

regimental debts, 995.

whether these debts have precedence of the crown, 995.

when the deceased has taken the benefit of the insolvent acts, 995.

debts of record, 996–1009.

judgments, 996.

what sort of judgment, 997, 998.

docketing judgments, 999, 1031.

abolished by 2 Vict. c. 11, 1001.

must be perfected before death of debtor, 1004 note (d).

registering judgments under 1 Vict. c. 110, s. 19, 1001.

judgments not docketed to have no priority, stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 2, 1002.

judgments as against heirs and executors to be re-registered, stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 4, 1003.

effect of not docketing, 1031.

they have no precedence among themselves, 1004.

order of priority in Missouri, 1004 note (d).

in New York. 1004 note (d).

postponement of. by writ of error, 1004.

decrees in equity, 1005. See tit. *Decrees.*

what sort of decrees, 1005.

recognizances, 1006.

securities by statute, 1007.

statute merchant, 1007.

statute staple, 1007.

recognizance in nature of statute staple, 1008.

statute void for want of formalities, 1009.

joint and several statute, 1009.

statute for money at a future day, 1009.

debts by specialty, 1010–1025.

rent, 1010 and note (i), 1011. See tit. *Rent.*

what is a specialty debt, 1012.

recital in a deed of the existence of a debt, 1012.

call under winding-up acts, 1012.

joint and several bond, 1012.

executor co-obligor, 1013.

joint bond, 1013.

testator's co-obligor having paid the bond, is not a specialty creditor, 1013.

*secus*, where the bond has been paid by a third party, 1014.

DEBT — *continued.*

priority of debts among themselves — *continued.*

securities by statute — *continued.*

debts by specialty — *continued.*

voluntary bond or covenant, 1015.

sum due on administration bond, 1016.

bond usurious, or *ex turpi causâ*, 1016.

bond due from *feme covert*, 1016.

covenants, debts due by, 1016.

breaches of trust, 1018–1020.

debts by mortgage, 1020.

future debts by specialty, 1021 and note (*p*).

contingent debts by specialty, 1022–1025.

as to payment of legacies notwithstanding, 1341 *et seq.*

recital of debt in a deed does not make it a specialty, 1012.

forming an item in a partnership account cannot be pleaded at law, 1044.

by simple contract, 1025.

due to the king, 1025.

due to servants, 1025.

custom of London as to paying them as if by specialty, 1025, 1026.

damages recovered against executor for injuries done by testator to the property of a third party payable as, 1026.

party injured by *devastavit* is a simple contract creditor of executor, 2054.

dilapidations by late incumbent of benefice, 1026.

distinction between specialty and simple contract debts as to priority of payment abolished after January 1, 1870, 1010.

with respect to payments by an executor *de son tort*, 1027. See *tit. Executor de son tort*.

an executor may voluntarily pay an inferior debt without notice of a superior, 1028.

he may plead a judgment for an inferior debt without notice, 1029.

what is notice to bind him, 1030.

docketing judgments, 1031.

abolished by stat. 2 Vict. c. 11, 1032.

effect of not docketing before the statute, 1031, 1993.

effect of stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 2, 1002, 1031.

executors presumed to have notice of decrees in equity, 1032.

with respect to other debts there must be actual notice, 1032.

DEBT — *continued.*

- executor's power of preference among creditors of equal degree, 1032.
  - how controlled by proceedings at law, 1033.
    - what is sufficient notice of proceedings where the process omits to describe defendant as executor, 1033 note (o).
    - his right to confess judgment to another, 1034 note (q).
    - even after plea pleaded, 1034.
    - effect of obtaining a plea of *plene admin. præter*, 1035.
  - how controlled by proceedings in equity, 1035.
    - he cannot pay in preference after a decree to account, 1036.
      - but he may stand in the place of the creditors he has paid, 1036 note (h).
    - whether he can make voluntary payments after bill filed, 1037.
    - judgments obtained after bill filed, 1038.
    - a creditor partly paid by an executor, will receive no further payment from the court until other creditors have been paid proportionably, 1038, 1039.
  - executor's retainer for his own debt, 939 *et seq.* See *tit. Retainer.*
    - right of retainer has been abolished or abrogated in some states, 1039 note (s).
- what passes by a bequest of "debts," 1196.
- satisfaction of, by legacy, 1296 *et seq.*
- express charge on legacy, 1299 note (g).
- release of, by legacy, 1303.
- effect of appointing debtor executor, 1310 *et seq.*
  - at law, 1310.
  - by statute in New York, 1310 note (i).
  - by decisions in Massachusetts and other states, 1310 note (i).
  - effect of appointing debtor administrator, 1310 note (i).
  - debt due from executor and from firm of which he is a member, 1310 note (k<sup>1</sup>).
  - in equity, 1314.
- debtor in execution becoming entitled to administer to creditor, 1316.
- effect of appointing creditor executor, 1316 *et seq.*
  - where creditor is sole executor, 1316.
  - where one of several debtors has made the creditor executor, 1317.
  - where a creditor is one of several executors, 1318.
  - mode of determining a disputed claim of an executor or administrator, in Massachusetts, 647 note (h), 1039 note (s).
  - when determined has no preference in some states, 1039 note (s).
  - action by creditor administrator for his own debt against executor *de son tort*, 1318.
- bequest of, by creditor to debtor,
  - lapses by death of debtor before testator's, 1205.
  - is a mere legacy and the debt is assets, 1303, 1304.
  - recital of debt due from legatee evidence against him, 1303.

DEBT — *continued.*

legacy of, 1196.

when specific, 1168 *et seq.*

when adeemed, 1320 *et seq.*

## ACTION OF, AGAINST EXECUTOR,

did not formerly lie upon simple contract, 1930.

but now by 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 13, such action may be maintained against an executor or administrator, 1931.

for rent, 1753. See tit. *Rent*.

when to be brought in the *detinet*, and when in the *debet* and *detinet*, 1754 *et seq.*

IMPRISONMENT FOR, abolished by "Debtor's Act, 1869," 1869, note (c).

## DEBTOR,

appointed executor or administrator, 1310 and notes (i) and (k<sup>1</sup>).

## DEBTS,

"all my just debts," meaning of, 1713.

## DECEIT,

action for, does not survive to executor, 793.

nor against him, 1728.

## DECLARATION,

in actions *by* executor or administrator,

where the cause of action accrues in the time of the deceased, must be in the *detinet* only, 1870.

where it accrues after his death the executor may sue as such, or individually, at his option, 1870.

in actions for torts done in the executor's time, 876, 877 and notes (d) and (k).

in actions on contracts made with the executor, 878 *et seq.* and note (o<sup>1</sup>), 881 note (g).

action by surviving executor, against partner of deceased co-executor, 1870 note (m).

he may bring debt in the *debet* and *detinet* on his own lease of land which he has as executor, 1871 note (o).

in debt for not setting out tithes, having the rectory as executor, 1871 note (o).

naming himself executor is but surplusage, if the action appears to be in his own right, 1872.

declaring in the *debet* and *detinet*, when it should be in the *detinet* only, is substance, 1872.

but cured by verdict, on demurrer, or after judgment by default, 1872.

in assumpsit by an administrator *de bonis non*, the promise may be laid to have been made to the first administrator, 1871.

joinder of counts,

a demand as executor cannot be joined with one individually, 1872.

misjoinder a defect in substance, 1872.

DECLARATION — *continued.*

in actions *by* executor or administrator — *continued.*

what counts cannot be joined, 1872.

counts on bond to himself, with promise or debt to testator, 1872.

what counts may be joined,

count on promise to testator, with count on account stated, 1873.

money lent by plaintiff as executor, 878, 1873.

money had and received to plaintiff's use as executor, 879, 1873.

money paid by mistake for distribution, deficiency of assets afterwards appearing, 883 note (*n*).

money paid by plaintiff as executor, 879, 1873.

goods sold and delivered by plaintiff as executor, 879, 1873.

materials found, and work and labor done by plaintiff as executor, 879, 1873.

bill of exchange indorsed to plaintiff as executor, 880, 1874.

promissory note to plaintiff as executor, 880.

judgment recovered by plaintiff as executor, 883, 1874.

suit by executor or administrator in one state, on judgment recovered by him in his representative character in another state, 883 note (*n*).

count for rent due to testator with one for rent due to executor, 1874 note (*j*).

it must be averred that the demand accrued to the plaintiff, "as executor," 1874.

consequence of not doing so, 1874.

profert of letters of administration or probate unnecessary since the common law procedure act; 1875.

oyer abolished, 1874.

in actions *against* an executor or administrator,

how defendant to be charged as executor, 1938. See, also, note (*r*).

when he may be charged as executor, 1938–1941.

consequence of declaring in the *debet* and *detinet*, instead of the *detinet* only, and *e converso*, 1938, note (*r*).

how to be charged for rent accrued after death of testator, 1752 *et seq.*

venue, 1939.

joinder of counts,

a count charging him as executor cannot be joined with one charging him individually, 1939.

misjoinder a defect in substance, 1939.

DECLARATION — *continued.*

in actions *against* an executor or administrator — *continued.*

joinder of counts — *continued.*

what counts cannot be joined,

count on promises by testator with count for money had and received by defendant as executor, 1939.

money lent to defendant as executor, 1939.

use and occupation as executor, 1939, 1940 note (*d*).

count for goods sold to or work done for the defendant as executor with a count for a debt due from defendant in his representative capacity, 1940.

if the goods or work were in fact contracted for by the testator, and the contract completed in executor's time, how to be stated, 1940.

what counts may be joined,

count on promise by testator, with count on account stated by defendant as executor, 1940.

money paid to the use of defendant as executor, 1940.

on promise to pay an award made after testator's death, 1771, 1772.

on promise to pay money contracted to be paid by testator after his death, 1772.

the words "as executor" must be stated on each count after stating the promise, 1941.

when those words may be rejected, 1941.

when a count for money had and received *by the testator* can be employed, 1941.

DECLARATIONS. See tit. *Evidence.*

of testator, as evidence on issue of sanity, undue influence, fraud, &c. 51 note (*d*), 359 note (*j*), 360 notes (*m*) and (*n*).

when relieved of undue influence, to confirm will made under it, 51 note (*d*), 360 note (*m*).

to show lost will not revoked, 379 note (*p*<sup>5</sup>).

to show will has been revoked, 379 note (*p*<sup>5</sup>).

as secondary evidence of contents of lost will, 360 note (*m*).

in evidence, which were privileged communications between him and witness in his lifetime, 360 note (*m*).

of satisfaction or dissatisfaction, on question of revocation of will, 360 note (*n*).

on question of forgery of will, 359 note (*f*).

of devisees or legatees, being parties to suit touching validity of will, 360 note (*m*).

of single legatee as to his particular legacy, or of sole legatee, 360 note (*m*).

of attesting witness tending to impeach will or himself as a witness, not admissible, 352 note (*g*).



**DECREE.** See tit. *Remedies*.

in equity,

against testator,

ranks in order of payment with a judgment at law, 1005.

the executor cannot plead it at law, but must have an injunction, 1005.

what sort of degree entitled to this precedence, 1005.

against executor,

equal to a judgment at law against him, 1035.

must be paid before judgment subsequently obtained, 1035.

effect of, in controlling executor's preference, 1035.

creditor partly paid by executor will not be further paid

by court until all the other creditors have been paid proportionably, 1038.

for an account, &c. in a creditor's suit,

executor cannot pay in preference after, 1036.

injunction after, to restrain creditor proceeding at law, &c.

1907 *et seq.* See tit. *Injunction*.

does not affect legal priorities of creditors, 1036, 1038.

approving will containing void bequests, 1153 note (*d*).

**DEED-POLL,**

may operate as a will, 104.

**DEEDS,**

belonging to inheritance do not pass to executor, 724.

nor the box in which they are kept, 724.

power of executor to take them out of chest in house of heir, 926.

**DEER,**

when they pass to the executor, 705 note (*i*).

in an inclosed ground, may be distrained for rent, 705 note (*i*).

**DEFICIENCY OF ASSETS,**

how charged on legacies in cases of abatement, 1359 note (*r*<sup>1</sup>).

**DELEGATES.** See tit. *Appeal*.

proceedings of, under the old law, 572.

according to the civil and ecclesiastical law, 572 note (*d*). .

had no original jurisdiction, 572 note (*d*).

court of, powers transferred by 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 41, to the judicial committee of the privy council, 573.

by probate act to house of lords, 573, 574.

**DELIRIUM,**

what it is, 28.

distinction between, and insanity, as to proof of lucid interval, 28.

**DELIVERY.** See tit. *Donatio Mortis Causâ*.

necessary to perfect a donation *causa mortis*, 774 and notes (*a*) and (*b*).

mere possession by donee not sufficient, actual delivery necessary, 774 note (*a*).

to wife of donor for use of donee, 774 note (*b*).

of note in hands of third person, 774 note (*b*).

donee must not only take, but must retain possession, 774 note (*b*<sup>2</sup>).

**DELIVERY** — *continued*.

of the key of a trunk containing money and bonds, 776 note (*l*).  
symbolical, not sufficient, 776 note (*n*).

**DELUSION**,

on one or more subjects, but not connected with dispositions of will, does not necessarily render it invalid, 33 note (*c*).  
absence or presence of, the true test of sanity, 34 and note (*f*).

**DEMAND**,

how to be made, when maker of note has deceased before its maturity, 2003 note (*m*).

**DEMONSTRATIVE LEGACIES**,

what they are, 1159 and note (*f*<sup>2</sup>), 1160 and note (*h*).  
ademption of, 1320.  
abatement of, 1370.

**DEPOSIT**,

of wills, place of, 315.  
of funds of estate by executors and administrators, 1844 note (*a*).

**DESCENDANTS**,

who entitled under description of, 1113, 1114.  
when they take *per capita*, and when *per stirpes*, 1114 note (*c*), 1513 note (*q*).  
cannot be construed to include any but lineal heirs unless there is a clear intent to extend its meaning, 1113 note (*a*).  
children of a sister are not, of the testator, 1113 note (*a*).

**DESCRIPTION**,

of legatee, 1089 *et seq.* See tit. *Legatee*.  
of legacies, 1178 *et seq.* See tit. *Legacy*.

**DETINUE**,

action of,  
lies *for* executor if goods are taken from testator, 786.  
lies *against* executor if goods taken by testator continue in his hands, 1730.

**DEVASTAVIT**,

definition of, 1796.  
instances of,  
by direct acts of abuse, 1796.  
by mal-administration, 1797, 1798.  
under expenses of funeral, 969 *et seq.*  
payment of debts out of legal order, 1797 *et seq.*  
not without notice, 1798.  
payment to one creditor of an insolvent estate in preference to another having equal right, 1797 note (*p*).  
assent to legacy, when fund insufficient for creditors, 1340, 1372.  
*quære*, if without notice, 1798.  
not preserving a term for years, 798.  
in trust to attend inheritance, 1798.  
by delivering the property of the estate to the next of kin, leaving the debts unpaid, 1797 note (*p*).

DEVASTAVIT — *continued.*instances of — *continued.*

- by delivering estate to residuary legatee without retaining sufficient for payment of other legacies, 1402 note (*e*).
- or without providing for future payment of annuities, 1797 note (*p*).
- by obtaining license to sell real estate upon false representation of deficiency of personal estate, 1797 note (*n*).
- by compounding or releasing debts, 1799.
  - if not for benefit of the trust estate, 1800.
  - submitting to arbitration, 1801.
  - stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s. 30, 1801.
  - rule in American States, 1801 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
- by unnecessary payments, 1801, 1802 and note (*k*).
- of joint bond, 1802.
- of void bond, 1802.
- executor not bound to plead statute of limitation, 1802, 1803 and note (*q*).
  - but any person interested in the distribution of the estate may take advantage thereof in chambers, 1803, 1804.
  - duty of executor or administrator as to debt barred in life-time of deceased, 1802 note (*p*).
  - as to reviving barred demand, 1802 note (*p*).
  - bound to plead the special statute limiting time for suing him in his official capacity, 1803 note (*q*).
  - effect of not pleading this statute, 1803 note (*q*).
  - promise by executor or administrator to pay debt barred by this statute will not keep the debt alive, 1803 note (*q*).
  - such promise held sufficient to avoid effect of general statute of limitations, 1803 note (*q*). See tit. *Limitations*.
- by negligence, 1804 and note (*y*), 1820 note (*y*).
  - in not selling assets, 1804, 1816 note (*a*<sup>1</sup>).
  - in not assigning an onerous lease, 1750 note (*l*).
  - in not paying debts carrying interest, 1805 and note (*d*).
    - he may pay simple contract debts before specialty bearing interest, if assets sufficient, 1805.
  - in not redeeming property of testator mortgaged or pledged for less than its value, 1798 note (*x*).
  - in not getting debts in, 1805, 1806 note (*f*).
    - enabling creditor to plead statute of limitations, 1805.
  - in not bringing actions, 1805 and note (*e*), 1806 and note (*g*).
  - in not collecting debt of principal debtor for whom deceased was surety, 1802 note (*n*).
  - not bound to attempt collection of bad debts, 1805 note (*e*).
  - degree of care required in getting in debts, 1806 notes (*g*) and (*h*).
  - in recovering property belonging to intestate's estate, 1806 note (*g*).

DEVASTAVIT — *continued.*

instances of — *continued.*

- by loss of assets, 1806. Stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, 1828. See, also, 1667-1671.
  - at law, 1807.
  - in equity, 1807 and notes.
  - loss by theft or casualty, 1807.
  - by invalid security, 1808.
    - where the will directs the investment of the estate in real or personal securities, 1809.
    - by fall of stocks, 1810, 1816 note (*a*<sup>1</sup>).
    - by continuing trade of testator, 1791 *et seq.*
    - by not investing in the proper stock, 1811.
    - by failing to invest as directed in the will, 1798 note (*q*).
    - investments authorized by 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 32; 23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 11, 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s. 25, 1811, 1812.
    - by retaining in hand, or by investing on a deficient security, 1814, 1815.
    - by leaving money in hands of purchaser under order from the court, 1808 note (*s*).
    - by making unauthorized loans of the funds of the estate, 1809 note (*x*<sup>1</sup>).
    - by loan to co-executors, 1809, 1810.
    - by not calling in money on security, 1815, 1816.
    - by failure or misconduct of banker or agent, 1817-1819, 1829, 1817 note (*e*), 1820 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>).
    - general result of all the authorities as to the loss of assets, 1819, 1820.
    - by conversion of assets into Confederate money, or taking pay for assets sold in that money, 1819 note (*q*<sup>2</sup>).
- in what cases an executor is liable for the *devastavit* of his co-executor, 949 and note (*t*<sup>1</sup>), 1820-1827, 1820 note (*y*).
- executor liable for acts of co-executor as for those of a stranger intrusted by him, 1822.
- executor trustee who stands by and sees breach of trust committed by co-trustee, 1827.
  - not protected by the usual indemnity clause, 1828 and note (*f*).
  - every trust instrument to be deemed to contain clauses for the indemnity as to loss of assets and reimbursement of trustees, stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, 1828, 1829.
  - executor joining in a receipt with co-executor, 1832-1836.
  - executor renouncing after an act of administration, 1829-1832.
  - executor who has proved, but who declines to act, 1832.
  - when a *devastavit* is released by concurrence or acquiescence, 1836.
- distinction between creditors and legatees as to liability of executor, 1837.

DEVASTAVIT — *continued*.

creditor who misleads an executor cannot complain of insufficiency of assets, 1974.

of *feme covert* executrix,

liability of husband, 1836, 1837.

of his estate where the wife survives, and is appointed his executrix, 1838.

liability of wife surviving, for *devastavit* during coverture, 1840, 1841 note (g).

where a payment by executor amounts to, he may sue to recover it back in his representative character, 883.

executor of executor, 1990.

not liable for, at common law, 1729.

stat. 30 Car. 2, c. 7, 1729.

party injured by, is a simple contract creditor of executor, 2054.

is a debt by executor due from the time of committing, and not from decree for payment, 2055.

as to abatement of legacies, where the estate becomes insufficient by the *devastavit* of the executor, 1862 *et seq.*

of freeman's estate, must be borne by the testamentary part only, 1549.

remedy for, in equity, 2053 *et seq.*

what is a conversion by the executor, 2053.

in case of a bankrupt executor, 2054.

retainer for, by co-executor, 1304 note (i).

remedy for, against executor of executor, 2000.

debt on a judgment against first executor suggesting a *devastavit*, 1991, 2000.

*scire fieri* inquiry as to, by sheriff, 1984, 1985.

what is a good finding of a *devastavit* in his return, 1986.

effect of lapse of time on, in equity, 2024 note (i) *et seq.*

## ACTION OF DEBT SUGGESTING,

upon judgment against executor, 1987.

its nature, 1987.

when brought, 1988.

form of, 1988.

pleas in, 1988, 1989.

executor cannot plead *plene administravit*, 1989.

evidence in, 1988, 1989.

judgment in, 1990.

may be brought by executor of him who obtained judgment with out a *scire facias* or writ of revivor, 1990.

against executor of executor, 1990.

against husband of executrix, 1837.

upon judgment of execution, 1893.

not on judgment against testator, 1991.

remedy on judgment against testator, 1991.

DEVASTAVIT — *continued.*

question of, may be tried in a suit within the jurisdiction of the county court, 1935 note (x).

DEVISE. See tit. *Will.*

history of devises, whence law of derived in the American States, 1 note.

lapsed devise, 1459 notes (*v*<sup>1</sup>) and (*x*).

void devise, 1459 note (*v*<sup>2</sup>).

of land to executor for payment of debts, 689. See tit. *Real Estate.*

devise or legacy to two in succession, failing as to first, 1459 note (*x*).

## DEVISEE,

who may be,

corporations, when, 1052 note (*b*).

foreign corporations, 1052 note (*b*).

unincorporated society, 1052 note (*b*).

as to state or nation, in New York, 1052 note (*b*).

as to heir-at-law, 1054 note (*r*).

infants and *femes covert*, 1054 note (*r*).

when entitled to be exonerated by the executor, 1693 *et seq.* See tit. *Exoneration.*

remedy against real assets in hands of, 1 W. 4, c. 47, 1688.

suit in county court by, where estate does not exceed 500*l.*, 2064.

## DILAPIDATIONS,

damages for, against the representatives of the late incumbent, in what order payable, 1026.

action for, against executor of rector, 1735–1739.

origin and progress of, 1735, 1737.

to what extent he is liable, 1738, 1739.

of mansion house,

executor of tenant for life without impeachment of waste not liable for, in equity, 1733.

## DISEASE,

temporary delirium caused by, 23 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).

## DISTRESS,

remedy against executors by, 2001.

cannot be made for non-payment of tax after person on whom it was assessed is dead, 2001 note (*b*).

executor's power to distrain, 926–932.

accrues from the death of testator before probate, 629, 630.

executor of a lessee for years who underlets, 926.

executor of a man seised of rent,

could not distrain at common law for rent incurred in testator's life, 927.

stat. 38 Hen. 8, c. 37, 927.

executors may have action and distrain for rent due to testator in his life, 927, 928.

distress for a rent the estate whereof depends upon another's life, being dead, 928.

DISTRESS — *continued*.

stat. 38 Hen. 8, c. 37 — *continued*.

construction of the statute, 928 *et seq.*

it extends to all tenants for life, 929.

whether it extends to executors of a man seised in fee, demised for years, 931.

it applies only to cases in which the testator might have distrained, 929.

in whose hands the lands must be, 929.

what manner of rents are within it, 930.

issuing out of copyhold, 930 and note (x).

executors of landlord may distrain on land demised for any term, or at will, as landlord himself might, 931, 932.

stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, 931, 932.

## DISTRIBUTEES,

can obtain their shares of estate only through administration, 650 note (d<sup>2</sup>).

can maintain no suit to recover share until decree of distribution, 650 note (d<sup>2</sup>). See tit. *Administration*.

## DISTRIBUTION,

of property to which legatee relinquishes all claim, 1483 note (a).

UNDER THE STATUTE 22 & 23 Car. 2, c. 10, 1484 *et seq.*

origin and object of statute, 1484.

provisions of, 1484–1487.

under statutes of, in the American States, 1484 note (e).

under late act in Massachusetts, 1490 note (z), 1496 note (s), 1506 note (h).

no suit for, to be entertained in probate court, 292, 2062.

if a person entitled die within the year, his executor may claim, 1526.

effect of agreement to distributive share, 1487.

no action at law lies for it, 1933.

when to be made, 1484 note (f<sup>1</sup>).

estate of an intestate bastard, or person without kin, 1514 and note (r).

*rights of husband*, 1488.

stat. 29 Car. 2, c. 3, s. 25, 1488.

rights of husband's representative, if he dies without taking administration, 1489.

or without having fully administered, 1489, 1491.

*rights of widow*, 1490–1495 and notes.

when barred by settlement, 1490.

by provision by will, in lieu of thirds, 1491.

when she cannot claim both her distributive share and money due under a covenant for her provision, 1492, 1493.

when she may claim both, 1493–1495.

in case of advancements, 1490 note (y<sup>1</sup>).

DISTRIBUTION — *continued.*UNDER THE STATUTE 22 & 23 Car. 2, c. 10 — *continued.**rights of children, 1495–1505.*

their “representatives,” 1496.

1. where none of intestate's children are dead, 1496.

2. where all the intestate's children are dead, leaving children, 1497.

3. where some of the intestate's children are dead, leaving children, 1497.

half blood, 1496.

posthumous child, 1496, 1497 note (y).

an only child, 1497.

advancement, 1498–1505.

operates only in distribution of the estates of intestate fathers, 1499.

does not operate in cases of *quasi* intestacy, 1499.

children of deceased child must bring in their father's advancement, 1499, 1500.

a child shall bring in his advancement among the other children only, and not for the widow, 1500.

advancement by settlement of land, 1500.

what is within the statute, 1500, 1501.

advancement out of personal estate, 1502–1505.

what is considered so, 1502–1504.

what is not, 1504, 1505.

*rights of next of kin, 1505–1515.*

who are next of kin, 1505.

husband and wife are not, 1119 and note (k), 1512 note (h).

how degrees of kindred are computed, 1511 note (c).

right of the father, 1506.

right of the mother, 1506.

brothers and sisters shall share with her, 1506.

although the intestate left a widow, 1506.

if no brothers are alive of intestate, nephews, &c. shall share with their grandmother, 1507.

the representatives of brothers and sisters beyond their children shall not share, 1508.

brothers and sisters of the half blood shall share with her, 1508.

when she shall take the whole, 1508.

mother-in-law, 1509.

right of brothers and sisters, 1509.

preferred to grandfather, &c. 1509.

grandfather preferred to uncle, 1510.

great grandfather shall share with uncle, 1510.

grandfather by mother's side, 1510.

uncles and nephews, 1510, 1511 note (b).



DISTRIBUTION — *continued*.UNDER THE STATUTE 22 & 23 Car. 2, c. 10 — *continued*.*rights of next of kin — continued*.

half blood, 1511 and note (c).

posthumous, 1511.

relatives by marriage, 1511.

no representation among collaterals after brothers' and sisters' children, 1512.

i. e. brothers and sisters of the intestate, 1512.

when they take *per capita*, 1512, 1513 and note (g).when *per stirpes*, 1513 and note (g).

## OF THE EFFECTS OF AN INTESTATE DOMICILED ABROAD, 371 and note (i), 1515-1525.

it shall be according to the law of the country of domicil, 1515 and note (u).

in case of ancillary administration, 1515 note (u).

English law adopts the law of the domicil, as it stands at the time of the death, 1515 note (u).

rules for ascertaining the domicil, 1517-1524.

UNDER THE CUSTOMS OF LONDON AND YORK, 1527 *et seq.*

saved by the statute of distributions, 1527.

customs of London and York abolished as to the estates of persons who have died on or after January 1, 1857, stat. 19 &amp; 20 Vict. c. 94, 1527.

what the customs are, 1528-1531.

what are assets subject to, 1548, 1549.

what expenses to be borne out of the testamentary part, 1548, 1549.

the customs do not apply in cases of equitable intestacy, 1529.

the custom of York does not attach unless the intestate was resident, 1531.

*secus*, of the custom of London, 1531.

the custom of London controls that of York, 1532.

the custom of London extends to honorary freemen, 1532-1536.

*rights of the widow*, 1532-1536.

the widow's chamber, 1533.

effects of ante-nuptial agreement by husband that his estate shall go according to the custom, 1533.

election by widow, 1534.

by children, 1534.

how she may be barred, 1535-1537.

by divorce, 1535.

by settlement before marriage, 1535.

*rights of children*, 1537-1549.

children born out of the city, 1537.

posthumous child, 1537.

grandchildren not entitled, 1537.

**DISTRIBUTION** — *continued.***UNDER THE CUSTOMS OF LONDON AND YORK** — *continued.**rights of children* — *continued.*

doctrine of advancement, 1538.

child fully advanced, 1538.

child advanced beyond his share, 1538.

child partially advanced, 1540.

shall bring into hotchpot with the children only, 1540.

child married, 1540, 1541.

out of real estate, 1541-1543.

according to the custom of London, 1541.

the province of York, 1542.

out of personal estate, 1543.

what so considered, 1543.

a child may be barred by agreement, 1543, 1544.

of her husband, 1544.

a child may be barred by marriage without consent, 1545.

effect of reconciliation after, 1545.

when the shares vest, 1545.

by the custom of London, 1545, 1546.

by the custom of York, 1547.

court of orphans in London, 1547.

power and duties of, 1547.

whether administrator having voluntarily made distribution, can recover it back on deficiency of assets appearing, 883 note (*m*).

in cases where distributee owes the estate, 1670 note (*q*).

**DISTRIBUTIVE SHARE,**

action for, 1933 note (*o*).

pleadings and judgment, 1933 note (*o*).

**DIVIDENDS,**

of stock, not apportionable at common law, 836, 839 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).

case of tenant for life of, dying on the day they become due, 836.

earned, but not declared until after death of tenant for life, 836 note (*a*).

earned, but not declared before testator's death, 1394 note (*u*).

bequest of, passes the principal, 1193, 1194.

**DOGS,**

pass to executor, 703.

**DOMICIL,**

every person must have, 1519 note (*h*<sup>1</sup>), 1520 note (*m*).

same person can have but one, for same purpose, 1518 note (*f*).

what is meant by term "domicil," 1517 notes (*d*) and (*e*).

and residence not convertible terms, 1517 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

residence one circumstance in proof of, 1517 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

country of,

the law there shall regulate the validity of wills proved here, 366 *et seq.*

and also the construction, 1088. See, also, 371.

**DOMICIL** — *continued.*

country of — *continued.*

so as to title to letters of administration, 428, 430.

as to persons *in itinere*, 430 note (*l*), 1519 note (*k*).

so as to distribution of the effects, 1515 *et seq.*

how the law of the foreign country is to be certified, 429 note (*e*).

effect of change of domicile after will is made, 366 note (*m*).

how far a British subject can select a foreign domicile in derogation of his British, 367, 1524.

of deceased, its effect on the liability of his estate to legacy duty, 1642.

rules for ascertaining the domicile, 1517 *et seq.*, 1642, 1643.

modes of deciding between two places of residence, which is the domicile, 1518 note (*f*).

distinction between domiciles of choice and of origin, 1517 note (*e*), 1518 note (*f*), 1520 note (*m*).

change of, how effected and how determined, 1519 notes (*i*) and (*k*), 1520 note (*m*).

intention and fact must be proved, 1519 note (*i*).

change may take place notwithstanding a declaration of intent not to change, 1519 note (*i*).

mode of proof of change, 1519 note (*i*).

distinction between change of national domicile, and changing from one town or state to another, 1521 note (*o*).

change of domicile by infants, persons *non compotes*, and married women, 1522 note (*p*).

law of the country of domicile will not prevail against a will, made under a power, of property situate in this country, 373.

what is meant by "the law of the country of domicile," 368.

law of, as affecting wills changed by stat. 24 & 25 Vict. c. 114, 374.

wills made by British subjects abroad to be admitted if made according to law of the place, or where testator was domiciled or had domicile of origin, 374.

also wills made by British subjects in this kingdom if made according to local law, 374.

change of, not to invalidate will, 374.

may be defined by order in council pursuant to stat. 23 & 24 Vict. c. 121, 1525.

**DONATIO MORTIS CAUSA.** See *tit. Delivery.*

definition of, 770 and note (*m*).

attributes of, 771 *et seq.*, 781 note (*k*).

must be made with view to donor's death, 771 and note (*o*).

as to gifts by one going into the army, or "to the front," 771 note (*o*).

must be conditioned to take effect only on the death of donor, 772.

as to the extremity of sickness necessary to the validity of such a gift, 772 note (*s*).

*DONATIO MORTIS CAUSA — continued.*

attributes of — *continued.*

as to the limit of time within which death must take place to render gift valid, 772 note (s).

a trust may be annexed to it, 775.

delivery of, 774, 775. See tit. *Delivery.*

nature and kind of delivery required, 774 notes (a) and (b) and (b<sup>2</sup>).

there must be as complete delivery as the subject is capable of, 774 note (a).

what is sufficient when the subject is incapable of actual transfer, 776.

what may be the subject of, 776–779.

only personal property, 774 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

may include all of donor's personal estate, 774 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

real estate cannot be made the subject of, 778 note (v).

bonds or bank-notes, 776.

negotiable instruments passing by delivery, 776, 777 note (q).

mortgage deeds, 777 and note (q<sup>1</sup>), 778.

policy of insurance, 778.

bankers' deposit note, 778.

book of a depositor in savings bank, 778 note (x<sup>1</sup>).

not receipts for stock, 778.

not bills or notes, not payable to bearer, 778. But see note (z).

in American States, promissory note of a third party payable to bearer, or to order, may be the subject of, with or without indorsement, 777 note (q).

so a note not negotiable, 777 note (q).

right of donee to sue in name of the executor or administrator of donor, when necessary, 5 note (o), 777 note (q).

not notes drawn by the deceased in his last illness, 779.

not donor's own promissory note payable to the donee, 779 note (a).

not checks on bankers, 779. But see 779 note (c)

whether it may be by deed without delivery, 780.

how it differs from a legacy, 781 and note (k<sup>1</sup>).

evidence of, 771 notes (o) and (r), 782, 783 and note (s).

subject to legacy duty, 782, 1558, 1586.

to debts, 782.

how it differs from a gift *inter vivos*, 681 and note (g<sup>1</sup>).

revocable, 781 and note (m).

husband may make to wife or wife to husband, 782 note (p).

wife may make, in Massachusetts, without consent of husband, 782 note (p).

cannot be made to the prejudice of creditors of donor, 782 note (q).

may be satisfied by a legacy, 781.

court of chancery will direct an issue to try, 783.

not abolished by new wills act, 783.

**DOUBLE PORTIONS,**

presumption against, how repelled, 1333, 1335.  
by parol evidence, 1335.

**DOVES,**

when they pass to executor, 705.

**DOWER.** See tit. *Widow.***DRUNKENNESS,**

when a ground of incapacity to make a will, 41 and note (n).  
incapacity from, at time of making will, must be shown, 41 note (m).  
understanding destroyed and gone by reason of, will invalid, 41 note (n).  
effect as disqualification for executor or administrator, 235 note (q).

**DUMB,**

capacity of to make a will, 17.

**DUNG.** See tits. *Manure, Fixtures.*

in a heap, is a chattel, 731.

**DUPLICATE WILLS,**

revocation of, 154, 156.

presumption, that the destruction or mutilation of one, revokes the other, 155.

when both instruments are in the possession of the testator, and only one is in part cancelled, 155.

if the testator has the custody of one or two duplicates, and it be found cancelled, or cannot be found, the presumption is, that he cancelled it *animo revocandi*, 157.

had to be brought into the prerogative court if required, 315.

**DUTY,**

on probates, legacies, &c. See tit. *Stamps.*

**E.****EAST INDIES.** See tit. *India.***ECCENTRIC HABITS,**

belief in supernatural agency, do not of themselves invalidate will, 30 note (z).

**ECCLESIASTICAL COURT.** See tits. *Court of Probate, Probate.*

rules of, not different from the principles of other courts, 11.

had no jurisdiction to grant probate of the will of the deceased king, 13.

or to grant administration to his effects, 13, 14.

its former exclusive jurisdiction in the proving of wills, 288. See tit. *Probate.*

this jurisdiction transferred to the court of probate, 290, 292.

in what cases equity would interfere with respect to probate, 294, 552 *et seq.*

rules of evidence in, 342 *et seq.* See tit. *Evidence.*

practice of, as to probate, &c. 375 *et seq.* See tits. *Probate, Administration.*

suit for a legacy formerly entertained by, 2062.

also suit by next of kin for distribution, 2063.

no suit would lie for proctor's fees, 2063.

**EFFECTS,**

- collection of, by executor, 986.
- what passes by a bequest of, 1178.
- “household effects,” 1187.

**EJECTMENT,**

- by executor,
  - lies whether ouster was before or after testator's death, 792, 878.
  - demise laid two years before probate, good, 629.
- by administrator,
  - when demise to be laid, 632 note (*p*).
- against executor,
  - for a recovery of a leasehold for years by a devisee after assent, 1933.
- verdict in, not admissible as evidence in a testamentary cause, 359.
- service on one of two co-executors in possession a sufficient service in an action of, 1937.
- consequence of death of a party to an action of, 1999.

**ELDEST SON,**

- when younger child is considered, 1094.

**ELECTION,**

- to take converted property in its actual state, 659 note (*h*).
- widow barred of paraphernalia by election to take as legatee, 769.
- power of, by executor,
  - where testator was entitled to take choice of several chattels, 944.
- power of, by legatee, from a certain number of stock, 1441.
- doctrine of, as to legacies, 1441 and notes (*y*) and (*z*) and (*a*).
- to what cases applicable, 442.
- only applicable as between a gift under a will and a claim *dehors* the will, 1442.
- heir-at-law, 1443.
- claiming against will cannot sustain action for construction of it, 1444 note (*l*).
- widow entitled to dower, 1444-1448 and notes.
- stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 105, 1444.
- where there are two bequests to the same person, the one onerous and the other beneficial, 1448, 1449.
- what constitutes an election, 1449 and notes (*g*) and (*g*<sup>1</sup>).
- effect of an election, 1449 and note (*j*).
- by widow or children of a freeman of London, 1534.
- of executor to take as legatee, 1380-1386.

**ELEGIT,**

- estate by, goes to executor, 675.

**EMBLEMENTS.** See tit. *Crops*.

- definition of, 709.
- what produce are, 710 and note (*m*), 711 and notes (*s*), (*l*), and (*z*), 712 and note (*a*).
- such only as repays the labor within the year, 712, 710 note (*m*).
- considered generally as chattels, 709 note (*l*).

EMBLEMENTS—*continued.*

- when executor entitled to, 713, 714 *et seq.*
  - as against heir, 713.
  - as against a devisee, 713, 714.
    - devise of land without more includes crop growing thereon at the death of testator, 709 note (*l*).
  - right of executor of tenant for life, 715.
  - stat. 14 & 15 Vict. c. 25, s. 1, 715 note (*u*).
  - right of executors of clergy, 717.
  - parson resigning his living not entitled to, 717 note (*b*).
  - right of executor of dowress, 717.
  - executor of her husband, 718.
  - right of executor to one seised *jure uxoris*, 718.
    - when husband and wife are joint tenants, 718.
  - right of executor of jointress, 719.
  - right of executor of tenant by curtesy, 719.
  - right of executor of tenant at will, 719.
- entry, egress, and regress to take, 719.
  - do not give a title to exclusive occupation, 719.
  - whether executors of lessee shall pay rent till the corn is ripe, 719.

## ENTITLED,

- word construed "entitled in possession," 1086, 1257 note (*b*).

## ENTREATY,

- effect of language of, in a will, 108 and note (*y*).

## ENTRIES,

- admissibility in evidence of, made by deceased executor against his interest, 2004, note (*s*).

## EPILEPTIC FITS,

- will of person subject to, admitted to probate under various adverse circumstances, 39 note (*a*<sup>1</sup>).

EQUITY. See tit. *Bill in Equity*.

- cannot set aside a will for fraud, 45, 552 *et seq.*
  - reason of this, 45 note (*l*).
- courts of, are courts of construction of wills, 294.
- in what cases it will interfere with respect to probate, &c. 552 *et seq.*
  - to prevent effect of fraud, in certain cases, 552 and note (*s*).
  - to prevent a party from controverting will in probate court, 558.
- equitable conversion, 657 *et seq.* See tit. *Conversion*.
- decree in. See tit. *Decree*.
- remedies for and against executors in. See tits. *Bill in Equity*, *Remedies*.
- remedy in settlement of probate accounts, how far it may be availed of, in certain cases and states, 2006 note (*g*).

ERASURE. See tit. *Alterations*.

- in will not amounting to a cancellation, 133 note (*a*), 134, 135 note (*e*), 139 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).
- partial revocation of will by, 143 *et seq.*

**ERROR,**

where a writ of error lies for an executor, 902, 903.

bail in error by executor, 904.

continuance by executor, &c. of proceedings in, begun by testator, 15  
& 16 Vict. c. 76, s. 163, 904.

in case of death of parties to writs of, 1999.

costs, 1897.

whether executor can postpone payment of judgment by, 1004.

correction of, in probate decrees and proceedings, 571 and note (*a*<sup>2</sup>).

**ESCAPE.** See tit. *Sheriff*.

**ESTATE,**

estate once administered can no longer be treated as assets, 433 note (*g*),  
1663 note (*h*<sup>2</sup>).

**OF AN EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR,**

**AT WHAT TIME IT VESTS,** 629 *et seq.*, 293 note (*y*).

estate of executor, 629.

estate of administrator, 630-633, 631 notes (*h*) and (*m*).

estate of administrator *de bonis non*, 631 note (*l*).

what interests vest in executor or administrator, 650 note (*d*<sup>2</sup>).

between the death of the deceased and the administration grant  
property to vest in the judge ordinary, 635.

distinction between chattels real and personal, 635.

for what purposes it vests in executor or administrator, 650 note  
(*d*<sup>2</sup>).

**• ITS QUALITY,** 636 *et seq.*

not forfeited by attainder of executor, &c. 636.

not applicable to executor's debts to the crown, 636.

where executor becomes bankrupt, it does not pass to assignees,  
637.

it operates as a forfeiture of a lease containing clause to that  
effect, though the lease does not pass to the assignees,  
638.

receiver to whom assignees may account, 638.

executor bankrupt, residuary legatees, 639.

it cannot be taken in execution for the debts of an executor, 639,  
640.

doctrine of merger respecting, 640 *et seq.*

administrator taking possession as such of property on which  
he has an equitable claim does not defeat legal estate, 642  
note (*l*).

executor cannot bequeath it, 643.

executor may alien the assets, 643, 932 *et seq.*

grant of *omnia bona sua* by executor, 644.

release of all his demands by executor, 644.

how far *feme covert* executrix entitles her husband, 644.

when an executor will gain a settlement by estate, 644, 645.

executor not to be a protector under 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 74, 646.



ESTATE — *continued.*OF AN EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR — *continued.*ITS QUALITY — *continued.*

how the effects which an executor takes as such may become his own, 646-649.

different rule in equity, 647 note (*k*), 2039 note (*p*).

sale by administrator of a "pretenced title," held to be within stat. 32 Hen. 8, 649.

QUANTITY OF ESTATE IN POSSESSION, 650 *et seq.*

of an executor and administrator is the same, 650.

of an executor who is also residuary legatee and has given bond to pay debts and legacies, 647 note (*l*).

executor administers devised and undevise estate, 560 note (*b*).

whether administrator with will annexed does, 650 note (*b*).

the whole personal estate vests in the executor or administrator, 650.

unless estate in joint tenancy, 650.

except in case of partners in trade, &c. 651.

rights of executor of one of several partners, 652.

in what cases the title goes to the executor, where the deceased had only a special property, 653.

estate of insolvent in case of the death of his assignee, 653.

*real property*, 654. See, also, 642.

in what cases an executor takes the fee in trust to sell, or merely a power, 654.

in what cases the executors shall have a power to sell land by implication, 655.

whether a mere charge of debts on land gives such an implied power, stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, ss. 14, 16, 656 and note (*d*).

the proceeds are equitable assets, 657, 1683.

the doctrine of equitable conversion, 657. See tit. *Conversion*.

land considered as money and money as land, 658.

land contracted to be sold, 659, 660.

compulsory sales under act of parliament, 660 note (*s*).

money covenanted to be laid out in land, 661.

conversion "out and out," 661, 662.

for particular purposes which fail, 663.

mixed fund from produce of real and personal estate, 663-666.

property purchased with partnership capital, 666.

property altered in nature by trustees of infant, 696, 667.

by committee of lunatic, 667, 668.

administrator generally takes no interest in real estate of deceased, 650 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

nor does an executor unless by force of the will, 650 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

ESTATE — *continued.*

OF AN EXECUTOR OF ADMINISTRATOR — *continued.*

QUANTITY OF ESTATE IN POSSESSION — *continued.*

administrator has naked authority to sell on license for payment of debts, 650 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

*chattels real*, 670 *et seq.*

next presentation to a church, 670–673.

archbishop's opinions, 673.

estates for years, 673.

for so many years, if *A. B.* shall so long live, 674.

lessee for years granting an estate for life, 674.

to *A.* for life, and if he die within a certain term, to his executor for that term, 674.

estates by statute staple, &c. 675.

lease for years to one and his heirs, 674.

to a sole corporation and his successors, 674.

devised in tail, 676.

to *A.* for life, and afterwards to his heirs general or special, 677.

tenancy from year to year, 678.

leases of incorporeal hereditaments, 678.

*annum, diem et vastum*, 679.

in joint tenancy, do not pass, 679.

vest in executor though specifically devised, 679.

the executor cannot waive a lease though worth nothing, 680. But see 1757.

equitable interest in term, 680.

terms attendant on the inheritance, 680.

estate *pur auter vie*, 680–682.

in a rent, 682, 683.

administrator *de bonis non* of grantee, 683.

devise without words of limitation, 684–586.

partial devise of, 684.

1 Vict. c. 26, 686.

mortgages, 687.

part of the personal estate, 687.

when heir entitled, 687, 688.

when a mortgage merges, 688, 689. See *Swabey v. Swabey*, 15 Sim. 106.

executor of mortgagor, in case of mortgage with power of sale, 689.

land devised to executors for payment of debts, 689.

with relation to husband and wife, 609 *et seq.* See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

by condition, 696.

by remainder, 697.

contingent and executory interest, 697.

lease for life, remainder to the executors of lessee, 697–702.

ESTATE—*continued.*OF AN EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR—*continued.*QUANTITY OF ESTATE IN POSSESSION—*continued.**chattels personal*, 703 *et seq.**chattels animate*, 703.*domitæ naturæ*, 703.*feræ naturæ*, 704.*per industriam*, 704.*propter impotentiam*, 704.what animals are incident to the inheritance, 704,  
705.if the deceased was a termor for years, they go to  
the executor, 705, 706.

prisoner in execution, 706.

prisoner of war, 706.

negro slaves, 706.

*chattels vegetable*, 707 *et seq.*

trees and fruits not severed, 707.

certain cases where growing trees go to executor, 707,  
708.when trees, &c. that are severed, go to the executor, 708,  
709.emblems, 709 *et seq.* See tit. *Emblems.*

what produce are emblems, 710–713.

second year's crop, 712.

when executor entitled to, 713 *et seq.*

as against heir, 713.

as against devisee, 713, 714.

right of executor of tenant for life, 715, 716.

right of executors of clergy, 717.

right of executor of dowress, 717.

executor of her husband, 718.

right of executor of one seised *jure uxoris*, 718.

when husband and wife are joint tenants, 718.

right of executor of jointress, 719.

right of executor of tenant by curtesy, 719.

right of executor of tenant at will, 719.

entry, egress, and regress to take, 719.

*heirlooms*, 720 *et seq.* See tit. *Heirlooms.*

what they are strictly, 721.

*chattels in the nature of*, 723.*chattels devised or settled as*, 725.*chattels which go to the successor of a corporation sole in  
the manner of*, 727.*fixtures*, 727 *et seq.* See tit. *Fixtures.*what are, 727 *et seq.*executor's right to sever, 731 *et seq.*

ESTATE — *continued.*OF AN EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR — *continued.*QUANTITY OF AN ESTATE IN POSSESSION — *continued.*

- separate property of wife*, 748. See tit. *Husband and Wife*.
  - by ante-nuptial settlement, 751.
  - by post-nuptial settlement, 753–756.
  - by wife's trading, 756. See, also, 756 note (m).
  - by savings from separate property, 757, 758.
  - by gift from husband, 758.
  - pin money, 760–763.
  - paraphernalia, 763 *et seq.* See tit. *Paraphernalia*.
  - what words will give a separate estate, 749.
    - gift to the separate use of an unmarried woman, 750, 751.
- donationes mortis causâ*, 770 *et seq.* See tit. *Donatio Mortis Causâ*.

QUANTITY OF ESTATE IN ACTION, 784 *et seq.*

- choses in action*, 784. See tit. *Action*.
  - which the deceased might have put in suit, 785 *et seq.*
    - as respects husband and wife, 846 *et seq.* See tit. *Husband and Wife*.
    - which accrued after death of testator, 876 *et seq.*
- contingent and executory interests, 887–889.
- the executor of the object of a power cannot be an appointee, 889.
- continuation of suits by executor, &c. 890 *et seq.* See tits. *Revisor*, *Error*, and *Certiorari*.
- in case of a corporation sole, 842.
- executor of bankrupt, 844.
- annuities, 809, 810. See, also, 784 note (b).
  - arrears of, when apportionable, 835–840.
- canal shares, &c. 810.
- stock in public funds, 811–813.
  - dividends when apportionable, 831–836.
- interest, 837.
  - may be apportioned, 837.
- servant, 813.
- apprentice, 814–817.
  - parish apprentice, 816.
- copyright, 817.
- patent, 817.
- carroome, 817.
- rent, 817 *et seq.* See tit. *Rent*.
  - rent-charge, *pur auter vie*, 841.
- copyhold fines, 841.
- money collected on briefs, 841.
- damages to estate of deceased tenant for life, 842.

ESTATE — *continued.*OF AN EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR — *continued.*QUANTITY OF ESTATE IN ACTION — *continued.*

costs of prosecution removed by *certiorari* into K. B., 845.

wrecked goods claimed by executors within a year and a day, 845.

*of several executors, &c.* 911-914.

each has the whole, 911.

they cannot sue on a promise made jointly with one of them, 912, 913.

survivorship as to residue, 913.

surviving executors entitled to receive money without discharge from executor of deceased co-executor, 913.

*of executor of executor, 915.*

with respect to *choses in action*, 915.

*of administrator de bonis non, 915 et seq.*

property converted by original executor, &c. 917, 918.

his title to *choses in action*, 919-921.

revivor, 899 *et seq.*

*of feme covert executrix, 921.*

estate vested in her after a protection order, 922.

## ESTATE PUR AUTER VIE,

description of, 680.

when it goes to executor, &c. 680.

executor of a grantee of a rent *pur auter vie*, 682, 683.

administrator *de bonis non*, of grantee, 683.

of assignee of lessee for life, 686 note (u).

effect of devise of, without words of limitation, 684.

effect of partial devise of, 684 and note (m).

stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, ss. 3, 6, 686.

how distributable in his hands, 1671-1674.

## ESTATE TAIL,

in personalty, vests absolutely in the legatee, 1106 and note (w), 1107.

See 678, 680.

settled or devised as heirlooms, 725.

## ESTRAY,

upon manor of wife, when it goes to husband's executor, 855.

EVIDENCE. See also *tit. Witnesses.*

on the question of undue influence, wide range allowed, 51 note (d). See *tit. Declarations of Testator.*

what admissible to rebut implied revocation of will by marriage and birth of child, 195, 196.

in testamentary causes, 342 *et seq.* See *tit. Probate.*

burden of proof, 342 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

on party propounding will, 342 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

practice in production of, on question of sanity, 342 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

one witness supported by adminicular proof sufficient under the old ecclesiastical law, 342.

**EVIDENCE — *continued*.****in testamentary causes — *continued*.**

rules of evidence in common law courts to be observed in court of probate, 344 and note (a<sup>1</sup>), 346 note (d<sup>3</sup>).

competency of witnesses, 345 and notes (b<sup>1</sup>) and (d<sup>1</sup>).

of witnesses, and parties under 6 & 7 Vict. c. 85; 14 & 15 Vict. c. 99; and 16 & 17 Vict. c. 83, 345.

of executor, 345 and note (b<sup>1</sup>).

of husband of wife, 345 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

attesting witnesses, 345 note (d<sup>1</sup>), 346. See *tit. Witnesses*.

object and purpose of such witnesses, 346 note (d<sup>3</sup>), 1054 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

those interested may insist they shall all testify, if alive, and within process of court, 346 note (d<sup>3</sup>), 347 note (g).

not necessary each should testify to all the formalities, 346 note (d<sup>3</sup>).

evidence of, may be rebutted by other testimony, 346 note (d<sup>3</sup>).

may testify to their opinion of testator's sanity, 346 note (d<sup>3</sup>).

reason of this, 346 note (d<sup>3</sup>). See *tit. Opinions, Experts*.

denying execution of will, 347 note (h).

will may be proved notwithstanding, 347 note (h).

by clear and decisive testimony, 347 note (h).

effect of the evidence of attesting witnesses as to circumstances of the attestation, 101-103, and note (w), 346 note (d<sup>3</sup>).

witnesses may be summoned and examined *viva voce* under 17 & 18 Vict. c. 47, 345.

how evidence is to be taken in contentious matter, 345, 346.

court may issue commissions or give orders for examination of witnesses, 346.

proof of signatures, when witnesses cannot be produced, 352 note (g).

proof of marks of marksmen witnesses when they cannot be produced, 352 note (g).

handwriting or marks of all must be proved, 352 note (g).

proof of signature of testator, when subscribing witnesses cannot be produced, nor their handwriting proved, 352 note (g).

mode of proving handwriting, 17 & 18 Vict. c. 125, s. 27, 348, 349.

effect of evidence of handwriting, 349. See *tit. Probate, Handwriting*.

rule that on proof of signing will by testator, instructions and knowledge of contents presumed, 350, and note (x).

parol evidence to prove lost will, 159, 378.

to explain intention, 353.

to explain ambiguity on the *factum*, 353 *et seq.*

to show whether a codicil is cumulative or substituted, 167, 1293 *et seq.*

verdict in ejectment not admitted, 369.

declarations of testator when admissible in, 360 and note (m).

EVIDENCE — *continued.*

in testamentary causes — *continued.*

on questions of fraud or undue influence, 51 note (d), 360 note (m).

on questions of sanity, 51 note (d), 359 note (j), 360 notes (m) and (n).

as evidence of the contents of will, when accompanying acts, 360 note (m).

held admissible as secondary evidence of contents of will, made both before and after the execution of it, the will being lost, 360 note (m).

on question of forgery, 359 note (j).

effect of probate in, 549 *et seq.*

of mixed will of land and goods, not evidence to prove the devise of the land, 389.

cases where probate is not evidence, 561.

mode of getting a will of land out of the registry, in order to produce it in evidence, 389, 390.

admissibility of, in construing a will,

general doctrine, 1294.

to rectify mistake of description, 1153, 1199–1202.

to ascertain the thing bequeathed, 1202, and note (y).

to ascertain who the legatee is, 1154.

as to whether a bequest of stock is specific, 1167.

as to cumulative legacies, 1293–1295.

as to the satisfaction of a debt or portion by legacy, 1300.

as to the ademption of a legacy given as portion, 1335–1339 note (u).

by testator not actually a parent, 1339 note (u).

as to the executor's right to the residue, 1482.

parol, inadmissible to alter, add to, or detract from the terms of will, 1088 note (m), 1153 note (t<sup>1</sup>).

to vary meaning of words, 1088 note (m).

letters and oral declarations of testator, rejected, 1153 note (t<sup>1</sup>). ]

so evidence of person who drew the will, 1153 note (t<sup>1</sup>).

admissible to rebut resulting trust, 1088 note (m), 1153 note (t<sup>1</sup>).

to remove latent ambiguity, 1088 note (m).

to counteract, as to rebut charges of fraud, 1153 note (t<sup>1</sup>).

to repel presumption against double portions, 1153 note (t<sup>1</sup>).

to identify subject-matter, 1153 note (t<sup>1</sup>).

to apply words of will to it, 1153 note (t<sup>1</sup>). See *tit. Parol Evidence.*

that *plaintiff* is executor or administrator, 1886.

where necessary, 1886–1889.

what is sufficient, 1886.

probate, 1889–1892.

letters of administration, 1892.

how far probate, &c. conclusive, 1893.

that *defendant* is executor or administrator, 1893.

on an issue of *ne unques executor*, the *onus* is on plaintiff, 1944.

**EVIDENCE — continued.**

that *defendant* is executor or administrator — *continued.*

proof of acts such as to make defendant executor *de son tort*, sufficient, 1944.

case of two executors, one of whom does not administer or prove, 1945.

notice to produce probate or letters, 1945.

they need not be shown in defendant's possession, 1945.

proof of identity, 1945.

for plaintiff, on issue joined on *plene administravit*, 1966 *et seq.* See tit. *Plene Administravit*.

for the executor, that the assets are exhausted, 1972 *et seq.*

verdict against testator is evidence against executor, 2004.

whether admissions made by an executor, &c. before appointment are receivable against him as executor, 1894.

of charge and discharge in the same sentence, 2049 note (1).

secondary, of contents of a will, 2005.

admissibility of declarations of deceased as evidence against executor, 2004 note (s).

entries made by deceased executor against his interest, 2003 note (s).

**EXCOMMUNICATION,**

does not produce incapacity to make a will, 65.

nor to be executor, 237.

nor to sue for a legacy, 237.

**EXECUTION,**

the goods of a testator cannot be taken in execution for debt of executor, 639.

cases where this rule is varied, 640.

prisoner in,

cannot be discharged without executor's concurrence, 706.

cases of exception, 900.

executor not bound to revive the judgment, or charge in execution *de novo*, 900.

how executor must obtain, 898 *et seq.* See tit. *Revivor*.

a *fi. fa.* or *ca. sa.* issued in testator's lifetime may be executed after his death, 1898. See, also, 901.

when it may be had of the goods of the testator in the hands of his executor without further proceedings, 1991.

when revival necessary, 1991, 1992.

several executors praying different writs of, 1943 note (z).

defendant dying in, fresh execution against his goods, 1994.

levy of, when obtained against executor or administrator, on real estate of deceased, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>), 1983 note (f<sup>1</sup>).

surplus of proceeds of land, sold on execution against deceased testator, payable to executor, 689 note (n).

may be issued by probate court for costs, 295 note (c).

levy of, cannot be made on personal property left by deceased, 2001 note (b).



**EXECUTOR.** See *tit. Administration, Bond, Security.*

in strictness essential to a testament, 7.

one named in will, another in codicil, 8 note (p).

if appointed by word of mouth, the will is nuncupative, 116 note (a).  
regularly, may not be instituted, but only substituted, in a codicil, 8 note (p).  
acceptation of the word, 226.

different sorts of, 226.

definition of, in its modern sense, 226.

testator may appoint different executors for different estates, and estates in different countries, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>), 251, 252, 382 note (h).

may appoint executors with different functions, to succeed each other in certain events, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>), 249.

nomination of, is insufficient to make a will, 227, 204, 377.

who entitled under a bequest to, 1127 *et seq.*

**WHO IS CAPABLE OF BEING,** 228 *et seq.*, 238 note (f).

the king, 228.

corporations, 228 and note (d<sup>1</sup>), 229.

a partnership firm, 229.

aliens, 229-231, 229 note (k).

infants, 231.

sole executor infant cannot act till twenty-one, 231.

whether if infant executrix take husband at full age he shall have the execution, 232.

*feme covert*, 232 and note (c) *et seq.* See *tit. Husband and Wife.*

persons attaint and outlaws, 235 note (o).

bankrupts and persons in mean or insolvent circumstances, 235, 236, 377.

habitual drunkards, 235 note (q).

control of, by appointing receivers or requiring security, 236, 237 and note (x), 377. See *tit. Bond, Security.*

villein, 235 note (o).

persons excommunicate, 237.

oman Catholics, 237.

persons denying the Trinity, &c. 238.

persons not qualifying for office, 238.

*non compotes*, 238 and note (f).

**APPOINTMENT OF,**

can only be by testament, 239.

by what words, 239 *et seq.*

by name of trustees, 242 note (r).

bad for uncertainty, 248.

executor according to the tenor, 244.

by words pointing at the office or rights of an executor, 239-242 and note (r).

by necessary implication, 242.

distinction between executor and overseer or coadjutor, 243, 244. See, too, 258 note (l).

**EXECUTOR** — *continued.***APPOINTMENT OF** — *continued.*

may be admitted to probate jointly with an express executor, 244.

general by implication, after an express limited appointment, 245.

testator may by his will delegate the power of appointing executor, 239 note (b), 245, 247 note (r).

appointees of legatees, 245.

vacating letters of appointment, 235 note (q).

for what causes executor may be removed in Massachusetts, 238 note (g).

several executors, 245.

with power to a survivor to appoint a fresh one, 247.

substituted executors, 245, 246 and note (m).

appointment of executors in a will revoked by codicil naming a "sole executor," 247.

how qualified or limited, 249 *et seq.*

in what cases it may be transmitted, 254 *et seq.*

revocation of appointment of, being also trustees, no revocation of their trusteeship, 1796 note (h).

if no appointment of executor is made by the will, administrator with will annexed is appointed, 242 note (s).

bond to be given by, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

to pay debts and legacies, &c. 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

exemption from bond, when, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

court may require for cause, notwithstanding, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

**ABSENCE OF**, 502 *et seq.* See *tit. Administration durante Absentiâ.*

**RENUNCIATION BY**, 274 *et seq.* See *tit. Renunciation.*

**PROBATE OF WILL BY.** See *tit. Probate, Court of Probate.*

he cannot rely on his title in any court, without probate, 292, 293 and note (s).

but he derives his title from the will itself, 293 and notes (r) and (u<sup>s</sup>).

what he may do before probate, 302 *et seq.* See *tit. Probate.*

citation by ordinary to prove, 311.

at the instance of any party interested, 311.

where the will is destroyed or concealed by executor, 312.

penalty where executor administers, and does not prove within six months, 319.

probate not to issue until after seven days from death of testator, 320. when applied for after the expiration of three years from the death of the testator, 319.

executor's oath, 325.

how administered, 326.

cannot be taken during a contest respecting the validity of codicil to a will, 383.

manner of obtaining probate, 304, 327 *et seq.*

EXECUTOR — *continued*.

## BOND,

ordinarily required of executor on receiving letters testamentary, in the American States, in all cases, 237 note (z).

in some states may be required only when necessary for security of the estate, 237 notes (x) and (z). See *tit. Bond, Security*.

ESTATE OF EXECUTOR, 629 *et seq.* See *tit. Estate, Assets*.

his right to the residue, 1474 *et seq.* See *tit. Residue*.

when he is residuary legatee, and has given bond to pay debts and legacies, acquires absolute title, 647 note (l).

of the effect of appointing a debtor executor, 1310–1316.

at law, 1310.

in equity, 1314.

of the effect of appointing a creditor executor, 1316–1318.

by one of several debtors, 1317.

creditor sole executor, 1316.

one of several executors, 1318.

mode of determining disputed claims of executors or administrators against estate of deceased in Massachusetts, 647 note (k).

## POWER OF,

to bring actions, 925.

to enter the house of heir, 926.

to take deeds, &c. out of heir's chest, 926.

to distrain, 926 *et seq.* See *tit. Distress*.

stat. 32 Hen. 8, c. 37, 927.

executors may have action and distrain for rent due in testator's lifetime, 927, 928.

construction of the statute, 929–931.

stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, 931.

to alien the assets, 932 *et seq.*

he has an absolute power over the personal estate, 932.

the assets cannot be followed into the hands of the alienee, 933.

he may transfer notes and the securities for their payment, 932 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

in proper case may sell for price below nominal value, 943 note (e).

even specific legacies, 933 and notes.

he may mortgage the assets, 934.

a purchaser from him is not bound to see to the application of the purchase-money, 935 and note (r). See 932 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

exception when there is collusion between the executor and purchaser, 935.

whether a sale in satisfaction of executor's private debt is valid, 936.

where there is collusion, legatees as well as creditors may follow the assets, 938.

**EXECUTOR** — *continued.*

**POWER OF** — *continued.*

to alien the assets — *continued.*

he cannot purchase the assets from himself, 938 and note (h), 1842.

but executor of a deceased partner may sell his share to surviving partners, 932 note (d<sup>1</sup>), 938.

he cannot bequeath the assets, 643.

to assign leases and make underleases, 938, 939.

may assign mortgage, 687 note (z), 939 note (k).

what underleases by executors are good in equity, 939.

when restrained by condition not to assign, 940-943.

his power of disposal over the assets not controlled by merely filing a bill in equity, 943.

to indorse a bill of exchange, 943.

to prove against his own estate, 2054, 2055 and note (t).

he cannot exercise a power of sale by attorney, 944.

of executor of assurer to re-assure, 944.

of executor of assured to procure indorsement of policy, 944.

of election by executor, 944, 945.

power of committee of lunatic executor to transfer stock, 2055.

trustee for next of kin of residue undisposed of, 1474 note (t).

to administer estate undisposed of by the will, 650 note (b), 1474 note (s<sup>1</sup>).

whether administrator with will annexed can administer such property, 650 note (b).

order of court for sale of assets, 932 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

for sale of outstanding debts, claims, &c. 932 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

sale sometimes required to be at public auction, 932 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

sale at an inadequate price, 932 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

in Massachusetts may be authorized to mortgage real estate for payment of debts, legacies, &c. 934 note (l).

**DUTIES OF,**

as to the funeral, 968 *et seq.* See tit. *Funeral.*

as to proving the will, &c. 972. See tits. *Probate, Administration.*

as to the making an inventory, 973-986. See tit. *Inventory.*

as to collecting the effects, 986.

consequence of not removing the personal property from the land, 987.

as to the payment of debts, 988 *et seq.* See tit. *Debts.*

order of payment prescribed by law, 988-1027.

payment of inferior debts without notice of superior, 1028, 1032.

suffering judgment for inferior debt, with the notice of superior, 1029.

of the executor's power of preference among creditors of equal degree, 1032-1039.

**EXECUTOR** — *continued.***DUTIES OF** — *continued.*

as to the payment of debts — *continued.*

controlling his preference by proceedings at law, 1033-1035.

executor's right to confess judgments, 1034. See tit.

*Judgment.*

by proceedings in equity, 1035.

whether, after bill filed, he can make voluntary payments, 1037. See, also, 268.

of the executor's right of retainer, 1039-1050. See tit. *Retainer.*

as to the payment of legacies, 1051 *et seq.* See tit. *Legacy.*

all debts must be satisfied before any legacies, 1340 *et seq.*

voluntary debts, 1015, 1340.

contingent debts, 1341-1348.

when legatee must give security against, 1344.

debts of which executor had no notice, 1348 *et seq.*, 1798.

executor's assent to legacy, 1272 *et seq.* See tit. *Assent.*

at what time legacies are to be paid, 1387. See tit. *Payment of Legacies.*

to whom legacies are to be paid, 1404 *et seq.* See tit. *Payment of Legacies.*

interest upon legacies, 1423 *et seq.*

in what currency legacies are to be paid, 1433-1435.

delivery of specific legacies, 1436-1440.

as to the payment of the residue, 1454 *et seq.* See tit. *Residue.*

as to distribution, 1484 *et seq.* See tit. *Distribution.*

what are assets in his hands, 1530 *et seq.* See tit. *Assets.*

**LIABILITY OF.** See tits. *Action, Remedy, Accounts.*

in respect of the acts of the deceased, 1721-1739 and notes.

in matters of contract, 1721-1728.

to do a collateral act, 1722.

though not named, 1723.

accruing after testator's death, 1723, 1724.

where contract was personal to testator, 1724-1727.

in matters of tort, 1728-1734.

rule *actio personalis moritur cum personâ*, 1728.

examples of the rule, 1728 *et seq.*

modification of the rule by stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, 1734.

actions may be brought against executors for injuries to property real or personal, by testator, if committed six months before death, 1734.

to be commenced within six months after executors have taken office, 1734, 1735.

**EXECUTOR — continued.****LIABILITY OF — continued.**

in respect of the acts of the deceased — *continued.*

the executor may be in many cases made liable by suing him in form *ex contractu*, 1730–1733.

of executor of rector, &c. for dilapidations, 1735–1739.

for breaches of trust, 1739.

on debts of record, 1740.

on joint contracts, 1740 and note (r).

in equity, 1741–1748. See, also, 1013.

of deceased shareholders in public companies, 1748.

on covenants concerning the realty, 1749, 1750, 1752 note (*p*<sup>1</sup>).

on contracts between landlord and tenant, 1750 *et seq.*

personal responsibility of executor for rent in his own time, 1752 *et seq.*, 1752 note (*r*<sup>1</sup>).

for repairs, 1759, 1760.

for continuing to occupy premises held by testator from year to year, 1760.

from occupation of co-executor when lands are leased for years by demise not under seal, 1761.

for party walls, 1761.

of executor of assignee of insolvent for breaches of covenant in lease granted to insolvent, 1761.

on a covenant by testator to take a renewed lease, 1761, 1762.

to complete the work of testator, 1794.

of executor of vendee to complete purchase, 1762, 1763.

to exonerate specific legacies, 1763.

of leaseholds, 1764.

of shares in public companies, 1764.

as to apprentices, 1765, 1766.

as to poor's rate and church rates, 1766, 1767.

as to debts of husband and wife, 1767, 1768.

as to an action for work and labor with a view to a legacy, 1768, 1769 and note (*z*).

executor of tenant for life who neglects to renew a lease, 1769.

as to admission to copyholds, 1769.

as to judge's executor certifying bill of exceptions, 1769.

as to executor of justice of the peace or coroner certifying record, 1769.

as to completing gift of testator, 1769, 1770.

of testator delivering a deed as an escrow, 1770.

on a note made payable with interest at a certain period after death of testator, 1770.

on continuing guaranty of testator, 1770.

in respect of his own contracts, 1771 *et seq.*

EXECUTOR—*continued.*LIABILITY OF — *continued.*

in respect of his own contracts — *continued.*

as executor,

upon contracts made as executor, 1771–1776.

promise to pay money awarded after testator's death,  
1771, 1772.

money not due till testator's death, 1772.

on an account stated as executor, 1772.

money paid to his use as executor, 1773.

not money lent to him as executor, 1774.

nor money had and received by him as executor, 1774.

in an action for use and occupation after death of  
testator, 1775, 1940 note (*d*).

for goods sold and delivered, and for work done and  
materials found and provided, 1775.

to pay interest, 1775.

personally, 1776 and notes (*t*) and (*x*).

there must be a good consideration, and the promise must  
be in writing, 1776 and note (*t*).

what is a sufficient consideration, 1778–1783.

what is a sufficient writing, 1783, 1784. But see 19  
& 20 Vict. c. 97, s. 3, 1784 note (*g*).

on promise made before probate and grant of letters, 1777, 1778,  
and see note (*b*).

on a submission to arbitration, 1784–1786.

for acts done under his power of attorney, 1786, 1787.

with respect to the expenses of the funeral, 1787–1791 and  
notes.

continuing testator's trade, 1791–1795.

how estate of testator subjected to liability for debts con-  
tracted in a partnership of which he has been a mem-  
ber, 1792 note (*s*).

administrator continuing trade of intestate with consent of  
all persons interested, 1795 note (*d*).

on a *devastavit*, 1796 *et seq.* See tits. *Devastavit*, *Accounts*.

accounts of, and allowances to, 1841 *et seq.* See tits. *Accounts*, *Allow-  
ances*.

cannot bind the estate by his own contract, 1774 note (*l*).

judgment in such case is *de bonis propriis*, 1791 note (*l*).

in what cases charged with interest, 1843–1852. See tit. *Interest*.

remedies against. See tit. *Remedies*.

at law, 1930–2005.

in equity, 2006–2057.

where the will is destroyed or concealed by him, 812.

in the probate court, 2058–2063.

in the county court, 2064–2070.

**EXECUTOR** — *continued.*

legacy to, 1127 *et seq.*

as such, whether he can in any case take beneficially, 1139 *et seq.*

when he can take, without accepting the office, 1281 *et seq.* See tit.

*Conditional Legacies.*

when property is given to as trustee, taking probate is an acceptance of the trust, 1796.

**SEVERAL EXECUTORS, 245.**

in several degrees, 245.

substituted executors, 245, 246.

if an instituted executor accepts the office, the substitutes are all excluded, 246.

exceptions, 246, 247.

in case the first becomes a traitor, 247.

are considered as an individual person, 245, 946–948, 1820 note (y)

privity among several executors, whether appointed in the same or in different jurisdictions, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>).

distinction between executors and administrators in this respect, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>).

giving joint and several bond, 1820 note (y).

giving separate bonds, 1820 note (y)

title of, proved by probate granted to one, 1891. See, also, 381.

must all join in bringing actions, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>), 956. See tit. *Parties.*

infants, 956.

executor who has renounced, 956.

no more need be sued than have administered, 1935, 1936.

for distinct parts of the property, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>), 251, 252.

*quoad* creditors, they are all one executor, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>), 252.

executor of one of,

no interest transmissible, except to executor of survivor, 256, 286, 472.

renunciation by all, 283.

consequences of, 283.

renunciation by some only, 256, 284–286, 382.

rights of executor renouncing probate to cease as if he had not been named in the will, 286, 472.

an executor renouncing may sue his co-executor, 287.

so if neither proves nor acts, 957.

probate granted to one inures for the benefit of all, 381.

double probate, 381, 382.

where there are several executors with distinct powers, or for distinct portions of time, 382.

estate of one of several executors, 911 *et seq.* See tit. *Estate.*

survivorship as to residue, 913, 1474.

they cannot sue on a promise made jointly with one of them, 912.

they cannot *all* sue on a contract made by *one*, 881.



EXECUTOR — *continued.*SEVERAL EXECUTORS — *continued.*

one executor should not lend the assets to another, 1809, 1810.

notice to one is notice to all, 1821.

entry by one shall not charge the other, 949.

how far the act of one can impose a charge on his companion, 949.

one of several executors cannot bind the others by his contract, 949, § 950.

power of one of several executors, 946–958.

of the survivor, 951. j

obligation to two may be assigned or discharged by one, on payment, 946 notes (a) and (c).

each has entire authority over the whole property under the will and to execute the will, 946 and note (b).

each has power to compromise or release a mortgage or other debts due the estate, 946 note (c), 950 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

each may assign a mortgage due the estate, 946 note (c).

or promissory notes, 947 note (g).

how far acts of one executor may impose a charge on another, 949 and note (i<sup>1</sup>).

each liable only for his own acts, how far, 949 and note (i<sup>1</sup>).

exercise of power given to several to sell land, 951.

cannot sell by attorney, 951 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

one cannot delegate his discretion to his co-executor, 951 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

all who qualify must join in sale, 951 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

when one renounces, 951–953.

where all have accepted and one afterwards resigns or renounces, 951 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

by surviving executors, 951 note (h<sup>1</sup>), 953.

by a single survivor, 954, 955.

equitable relief, 956.

when one executor may sue the other, 956, 957.

in equity, 1911.

an executor may prove under co-executor's bankruptcy, 2055 note (i).

one of several executors may accept a surrender of a term, 949 note (z).

when an executor liable for *devastavit* of a co-executor, 1820 *et seq.* See tit. *Devastavit*.

pleas by, 1943.

judgment against, 1978.

when only is found to have assets, 1978.

## EXECUTOR OF EXECUTOR,

whether he may refuse to administer the first testator's effects though he accept the office as to his immediate testator, 276, 282.

**EXECUTOR**—*continued.*

**EXECUTOR OF EXECUTOR**—*continued.*

where there is a sole executor, his executor represents the first testator, 254. *Secus*, in some of the American States, 254 note (b).

not unless the first executor proves the will, 255.

if there are several executors, no interest is transmissible, except to the executor of the survivor, 256.

not even under the old law where one of several proves, and the rest renounce, 256, 284.

but now rights of an executor renouncing probate cease, as if he had not been named in the will, 256, 286.

in some of the American States it is expressly provided that the executor of an executor shall not represent the first testator, 254 note (b), 959 note (a).

his estate, 915 *et seq.* See tit. *Estate.*

executor of *feme covert* executrix, 255, 415, 921, 922.

if executor dies before probate, his executor does not represent the first testator, 810.

no new probate necessary for, 383.

his power, 959–961.

when he can execute a power, 959.

a personal trust, 960 and note (e).

a power annexed to an interest, 961.

remedies against, 1729.

for a *devastavit* of first executor, 1729, 2000.

debt on a judgment against the first executor suggesting a *devastavit*, 1990, 2000.

**EXECUTOR OF ADMINISTRATOR,**

does not represent the intestate, 474, 959 note (a).

**ADMINISTRATOR OF EXECUTOR,**

does not represent first testator, 254.

cannot sue for double value of lands held over, though tenant attorned to him, 254 note (c).

administrator *durante minoritate* of executor of executor represents first testator, 255 note (d).

**LIMITED EXECUTOR,** 249 *et seq.*

in point of time, 249.

as to when he shall begin his office, 249.

as to when he shall cease, 250.

in point of place, 251.

in various countries, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>), 251.

in point of subject-matter, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>), 251, 252.

as to creditors, distinct executors are all as one executor, 226 note (e<sup>1</sup>), 252.

conditional executor, 252.

acts done by executor before condition broken, good, 252 note (u).

**EXECUTOR DE SON TORT,**

definition of, 257 and note (a).

in some of the American States, not recognized, 257 note (a).

may be for a term of years, 258.

what acts constitute, 257-261, 257 note (a<sup>1</sup>), 258 notes (h) and (i), 261 note (u). See, also, 278.

is not a question for a jury, 265.

cannot be purged by a subsequent grant of administration, 264 note (n), 269 note (r).

acts of widow and of heirs of deceased, 258 notes (h) and (i).

acts of creditor in claiming and receiving his debt out of estate of deceased from his widow when he knows there is no administrator, 262 note (h).

possession of money, avails of estate of deceased, by a person to whom it was sent by an administrator from another state, under circumstances stated, 265 note (p<sup>1</sup>).

possession of money, avails of estate of deceased, in one state by an executor appointed in another state, 265 note (p<sup>1</sup>).

acts of one done under void administration, 272 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

what acts do not constitute, 261-265.

purchase of the estate from executor *de son tort*, 263 note (h).

taking possession of the estate by administrator of executor *de son tort*, 264 note (o).

selling by surety of deceased, of property given him as security, with power of sale, 263 note (k).

acts of agent of widow of deceased, in selling part of the estate and paying her the money, 259 note (o).

acts of agent of executors who afterwards prove will, 264 note (n).

acts of agent of person who afterwards becomes administrator, 264 note (n).

intermeddling with real estate, 257 note (a).

taking, by one in whose house deceased died, of money found by him on person of deceased, and paying it over to rightful administrator in another state, 265 note (p<sup>1</sup>).

whether there may be a lawful executor, and an executor *de son tort*, at the same time, 261 and note (y).

liability of, 265 *et seq.*

wholly different from that of executor duly appointed, 265 note (i).

cannot claim rights allowed to rightful executor on account of his office, 265 note (i).

not liable to be charged with execution of trust imposed on executor by the will, 265 note (i).

*EXECUTOR DE SON TORT — continued.*

liability of — *continued.*

an executor *de son tort* may be sued as such, though, before writ brought, administration be legally granted to another, 261 note (x).

he may be sued as executor *de son tort* by the rightful executor, who is also a creditor of the estate, 261 note (x).

in an action by a creditor, 265.

by a creditor, executor, or administrator for his own debt, 261 note (y), 1318.

he shall be named executor generally, 265.

consequence of his pleading *ne unques executor*, 266.

whether equity will in any case relieve, 266 note (z).

not liable beyond the assets come to his hands, 266 note (z), 267.

in New Hampshire he is liable to double the amount of estate intermeddled with, 266 note (z).

in Massachusetts and Iowa he is liable to the value of goods taken and damages, 266 note (z).

he may make defence as rightful administrator, 267 note (a).

may raise question whether plaintiff is a creditor, 267 note (a).

may rely on statute of limitations, 267 note (a).

plea of *plene administravit* by, 267.

may be pleaded with *ne unques executor*, 267.

he may show the payment of debts under, 271 note (b), 267, 1027.

of equal or superior degree, 267.

he may show the delivery of the assets to the rightful executor, 267.

*secus*, after action brought, 268.

payments to an administrator after suit in equity not allowed, 268.

accounting with rightful executor not sufficient in equity, 268. *Sed quære*, 268 note (k).

he may show payment of debt of superior degree after action brought, 267, 1027.

retainer by, for his own debt,

cannot be pleaded or given in evidence, 269.

though of superior degree, 269.

though the rightful executor or administrator assent to it, 269.

if he were sued as executor generally, and pleads a retainer, the plaintiff may reply that he is executor *de son tort*, 269.

if he gives the retainer in evidence, the plaintiff may show who is the rightful executor, 269.

**EXECUTOR DE SON TORT** — *continued.*

liability of — *continued.*

in an action by a creditor — *continued.*

retainer by, for his own debt — *continued.*

may be legalized by administration obtained *pendente lite*, 269.

he may rejoin that fact *puis darrein continuance*, 270.

in an action by the rightful executor, 261 note (x), 270.

liable only to account to executor or administrator duly appointed, 265 note (s).

cannot be cited to account in probate court, 265 note (s<sup>1</sup>).

he may give in evidence, in *mitigation of damages*, payments made in a course of administration, 270 and note (t).

but he cannot plead them in bar, 270.

he shall not be allowed them, where the assets are not sufficient for debts, 270, 271.

whether the executor *de son tort* of an executor *de son tort* is liable for a *devastavit* by the first, 1728, 1729 note (p).

effect of his acts on assets aliened by him, 271.

all his lawful acts are good, 272.

qualifications of this rule, 272, 273.

he is treated as executor only for the purpose of being charged, 2019.

he cannot settle the estate of deceased, cannot sue for or collect the assets, nor can he make any valid disposition of the goods and effects, 265 note (t).

he is not chargeable for not reducing and administering assets, 265 note (t).

judgment recovered against him cannot be collected out of real estate of deceased, 266 note (z).

how far bound by his own acts having subsequently obtained letters of administration, 273, 406, 1788.

how far he can take advantage of his acts upon subsequently taking administration, 273 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

• he cannot bring any action in right of the deceased, 265 note (t), 926.

but being in possession of goods of deceased may maintain an action in respect of them against a mere wrong-doer, 926 note (c).

his presence in a court of equity will not dispense with that of a regular representative, 2019.

there cannot be an administrator *de son tort*, 266 note (y).

agent to, cannot discharge himself by showing that he has accounted to his principal, 269.

**EXECUTOR ACCORDING TO THE TENOR,**

how appointed, 239, 240.

**EXECUTORY INTEREST,**

passes to executor, 887.

**EXEMPTION,**

of executor from giving bond, 529 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

## EXONERATION,

- of the real estate by the personal, 1693 *et seq.*, 1694 note (r).
- heir or devisee who has been forced to pay a bond, shall be reimbursed out of the personal assets, 1693.
- so of a mortgage, 1694 and note (r).
- where land is devised subject to incumbrances, 1694 note (r).
- secus, if the payment of the mortgage debt is a condition imposed on the devisee, 1695 note (r).
- not so as to disappoint any person having a prior claim to be satisfied, 1695.
- it can only take place where the debt is the *proper debt* of deceased, 1696-1702.
- 17 & 18 Vict. c. 113 (Mr. Locke King's act), after December 31, 1854, heir or devisee of real estate not to claim payment of mortgage out of personal assets, 1702, 1704 and note (e).
- of real estate charged with debts and legacies, 1703 note (e), 1704 note (f), 1705 note (i).
- devisee liable to suit if he accepts land charged with payment of a legacy, 1704 note (h).
- of the personal estate by the real, 1705 *et seq.*
- what words in a will shall exempt the personal estate from payment of debts and legacies, 1705-1711 and notes.
- legacies given out of particular fund, 1711.
- of real and personal estate when a mixed fund is directed to be applied in payment of debts and legacies, 1712 and note (f), 1717 note (b).
- of specific legacies, 1712, 1718 note (d).
- of estate purchased by testator, from purchase-money, 1762.
- order of the application of the several funds liable to the payment of debts, 1693 note (l).

## EXPENSES,

- of litigation incurred by executor, 376 note (y). See tit. *Costs*.

## EXPERTS,

- testimony of, on issue regarding sanity, 360 note (n).
- ground of admission, 360 note (n).
- question of their competency to testify is for court, 360 note (n).
- opinion of, may be admitted as founded on their own personal acquaintance with testator, or upon a hypothetical case, supposed to be proved by the evidence, 360 note (n).
- facts or symptoms on which opinion founded to be stated, 360 note (n).
- jury must be satisfied that facts and symptoms did exist in the case, 360 note (n).
- cannot testify to opinion formed partly on his own observation and partly on representations of others not under oath, 360 note (n).
- form and kind of question which may be put to them, 360 note (n).
- may state grounds of opinion on examination in chief, 360 note (n).
- as to the value of evidence of experts, 360 note (n).
- on questions of foreign law, 371 note (i).

## F.

**FAC-SIMILE PROBATE**, 331, 386, 566 *et seq.*

**FALSA DEMONSTRATIO NON NOCET**, 1153 note (*tl*).

**FALSE IMPRISONMENT**,

action for, does not survive to executor, 790.

nor against him, 1728.

**FAMILY**,

who entitled, under description of, in a will, 1125, 1226 note (*l*).

younger branches of, 1125.

when they take *per capita* and when *per stirpes*, 1513 note (*q*).

act for compensating the families of persons killed by accident, &c. 9 & 10 Vict. c. 93, 796.

**FATHER**,

his rights to the grant of administration to his son, 423.

to the residue of his son's effects, 1506.

to share with his widow, 1506.

**FEAR**,

will obtained by, 44.

**FEES**,

of counsel, allowed to administrator when incurred in *bonâ fide* litigation, 594 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>). See tit. *Costs*.

**FELO DE SE**,

incapable of making a will of chattels, 64.

presentment or inquest of, when removable by *certiorari*, and traversable by executors, 905, 906.

administration to the effects of, 435.

**FELON**,

legacy to, who entitled to receive, 1421.

incapable of making a will, 63.

of being an administrator formerly, 449.

unless pardoned, 64.

he may make a will as executor, 64.

may sue as executor, 235.

*felo de se*, incapable of making a will, 64.

administration to effects of, 439.

forfeiture of property of, abolished by 33 & 34 Vict. c. 23, 449 note (*a*).

**FEME COVERT**. See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

**FEME SOLE**,

a gift to separate use of, excludes the executor of a future husband, 750, 751.

**FENCE**. See tit. *Fixtures*.

around burial place, 969 note (*d*).

**FIERI FACIAS**,

issued in testator's lifetime on a judgment for him may be executed after his death, 1898. See, also, 902.

*FERI FACIAS* — continued.

on a judgment against testator, when it may issue without writ of revivor or suggestion, 1991.

## FINES,

imposed upon testator, liability of executor for, 1740.  
copyhold, 841, 1769.

## FISH,

when they pass to executor, 705.

## FIXTURES,

general rule as to, 727 and note (*o*).

what is an annexation of a chattel to the freehold, 728 *et seq.*, 736 note (*s*).  
constructive annexation, 730 and note (*y*<sup>2</sup>).

actual attachment or fastening to the land not necessary to render a chattel a fixture, 728 note (*p*), 730 note (*z*).

effect of intention in determining whether fixture or not, 728 note (*p*).

dwelling-houses and other buildings,

when may be removed, 728 note (*p*).

rule between heir and executor, 728 note (*p*).

when executor is entitled to sever, 731-748.

right of executor of tenant in fee against the heir, 731, 732, 744 note (*p*<sup>1</sup>).

old rule, 732.

relaxations as to trade fixtures, 732-736.

as to fixtures for ornament or convenience, 736-739.

against devisee, 739, 740.

right of executor of tenant for life or in tail against remainderman, 741-743.

as to trade fixtures, 743.

as to machinery used in manufactories, 730 note (*z*).

stills set up in furnaces for making whiskey, 736 note (*r*<sup>1</sup>).

cotton-gin, 740 note (*i*).

as to ornamental fixtures, 743, 744.

furnace, 736 and note (*q*), 737 note (*u*).

stoves, 739 notes (*d*<sup>1</sup>) and (*e*<sup>1</sup>).

chandeliers, gas fixtures, &c. 739 note (*e*<sup>1</sup>).

cases of fixtures between landlord and tenant, 744 and note (*p*<sup>1</sup>), 745.

fence inclosing land, 730 note (*b*).

temporarily detached from the land, 730 note (*b*).

hop poles, 730 note (*b*).

rails in stacks, 730 note (*b*).

timber, &c. intended to be put into a building on the land, 730 note (*b*).

manure, in barn yard, or spread upon the land, 731 note (*c*).

drawn out and piled up on the land, 731 note (*c*).

made in a stable, 731 note (*c*).



**FIXTURES** — *continued.*

when executor is entitled to sever — *continued.*

cases of fixtures between landlord and tenant — *continued.*

executors of tenant not entitled to fixtures set up for agriculture,  
745.

stat. 14 & 15 Vict. c. 25, s. 3, 745 note (s).

case of a conservatory, 745, 746.

case of a pump, 747.

must be removed by the tenant or his executor before the tenancy expires, 747.

within a reasonable time, in case of a tenant for life,  
748.

will pass by a bequest to a charity, 1060 note (s).

not "goods and chattels in the order and disposition of the bankrupt," so as to pass to the assignee, 736 note (r).

and fixed furniture, bequest of, 740, note (i).

whether they pass by a grant of the freehold to which they are annexed,  
740 note (i).

**FORCE,**

will obtained by, 44.

**FOREIGN ADMINISTRATION,**

not necessary that administration should first be taken in place of domicile of deceased, 430 note (g).

nor that letters testamentary should be taken in place of domicile, before administration in a foreign state where testator left estate, 430 note (g), 440 note (h).

administration granted in any other country than that of the domicile of deceased, is merely ancillary, 430 note (g).

rights of foreign administrators, 431-433, notes (m<sup>1</sup>) and (o<sup>1</sup>). See also, 1613, 1929 and note (b).

administrator appointed in one state has no power over property in another, 431 note (m<sup>1</sup>), 432 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

nor in debts due there, 432 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

nor power to collect them, 432 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

as to giving power, by indorsement, to the indorsee to sue on a note, 432 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

as to discharging debts due in another jurisdiction, 432 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

liabilities of foreign administrators, 1663, 1664.

**FOREIGN ASSETS,** 1663.

executor or administrator not chargeable on account of them, in another state where he has taken out administration on estate situated there,  
362 note (u).

**FOREIGN ATTACHMENT,**

how far executors are within the custom of, 2001, 2002.

**FOREIGN EXECUTORS,**

cannot be sued here, 362 note (u), 1929 and note (b), 2018.

**FOREIGN EXECUTORS** — *continued.*

in some states, a foreign executor or administrator may sue for and collect assets, without qualifying as executor or administrator therein, 361 note (p).

general rule, however, is otherwise, 362 note (u), 432\* note (o<sup>1</sup>), 1929 note (b).

in some states, such executors and foreign administrators may be charged for assets brought with them from the country in which they have administered, 362 note (u).

remarks of Judge Story on this, 362 note (u).

in other American States a different doctrine is held, 362 note (u).

cases of suit in foreign country, by executors or administrators, for property which has previously been reduced to possession in jurisdiction from which they derive authority, 362 note (u).

where executor sues in foreign jurisdiction in his own right, 362 note (u).

assignee of foreign executor, 362 note (u), 1663 note (g<sup>2</sup>).

voluntary payment to foreign executor or administrator, 362 note (u), 1663 notes (g<sup>2</sup>) and (h<sup>1</sup>).

object of taking out letters testamentary in another state after probate of will in state of testator's domicile, 362 note (z).

accountable only according to the law of the state where appointed, 1929 note (b).

cannot be sued in another state on judgment against them in state of appointment, where they are charged in their representative character, 1929 note (b).

as to privity between administrators appointed in regard to the same estate in different states, 1929 note (b).

as to privity between co-executors holding their offices under different appointments in different states, 1929 note (b).

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE,**

will in, probate of, 566.

**FOREIGN LAWS.** See *tits. Construction, Laws.*

to be proved as facts, 371 note (i).

question of their existence and the interpretation of them to be settled on the evidence in each case, 371 note (i).

jury determine on parol evidence of as other facts, 371 note (i).

when evidence consists of written documents, statute law, or judicial opinion, construction is for the court, 371 note (i).

may be proved by well informed witnesses, though no lawyers, 371 note (i). courts presume foreign law to be same as their own, in absence of evidence to the contrary, 371 note (i).

written may be proved by parol, 371 note (i).

witness gives words, and meaning of the law, as applicable to the case in hand, 371 note (i).

witness of, may refer to foreign law books to refresh memory, or correct or confirm opinion, 371 note (i).

FOREIGN LAWS — *continued.*

but the law must be taken from his evidence, 371 note (i).

as to reading books of foreign law, 371 note (i).

act of Congress, construed in English court by English judge, 371 note (i).

mode of ascertaining foreign laws and their construction, recently adopted in England, 371 note (i).

foreign rules of evidence, 371 note (i).

## FOREIGN PROBATE,

executor bound to take, for the purpose of collecting debts in other states, if the interests of estate require it, 361 note (p).

FOREIGNER. See *tit. Alien.*

capacity of, to make a will, 12.

friend,

may be executor, 230.

may be administrator, 450, 484.

enemy,

whether he may be executor, 231.

probate of will of, 360 *et seq.*

if the deceased left no personalty in this country, his will need not be proved here, 360, 362 note (c).

but if a foreign executor has to bring a suit here, there must be administration *ad litem*, 361, 362, 1929, 2019.

a will made abroad of property here, must be proved here, 362, 298 note (s).

whether the will can be so proved and allowed, after it has been denied probate abroad. See 362 note (c).

Scotch confirmation produced in probate court and sealed there, has the effect of probate, 363.

Irish probates to be of like force as English probates, being resealed, 364.

right to have foreign will allowed and recorded in Massachusetts, exists only when there is estate in Massachusetts on which will may operate, 362 note (c).

debt due testator's estate from resident of Massachusetts, 289 note (h), 291 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

a foreign executor cannot be sued here, 362 note (u), 1929, 2019.

administration to effects of, 431 *et seq.*

validity and construction of will of,

the court here will be guided by the law of the country of domicil, 369, 1088.

distribution of effects of, 1515 *et seq.*

shall be according to the country of domicil, 1515.

rules for ascertaining the domicil, 1517 *et seq.*

*feme covert* foreigner and domiciled abroad may make a will, 63.

## FORFEITURE,

of felon's property, abolished by 33 & 34 Vict. c. 23, 449 note (a).

FORM OF A WILL. See tit. *Will*.

*FORMA PAUPERIS*,

executor cannot sue or defend in, 1928.

FRAUD,

will obtained by, 45.

what fraud will annul a will, 45 and note (i), 48 note (a).

cannot be set aside in equity, 45, 552 *et seq.*

probate obtained by, 552 *et seq.*

and undue influence, kind of evidence admissible to prove, 51 note (d), 360 notes (m) and (n).

FRAUDS, STATUTE OF,

as to personal liability of executor, 1776, 1777 *et seq.*

FRAUDULENT ASSIGNMENT. See tit. *Voluntary Settlement*.

property assigned is assets, 1679 and note (x). See, also, 758 *et seq.*

executor or administrator bound to use the appropriate means to obtain property fraudulently conveyed by testator or intestate, for payment of his debts, 1679 note (x).

bound to inventory it, 1679 note (x).

new assets when recovered, 1679 note (x).

duty of executor or administrator in case of a fraudulent discharge of a note by testator or intestate, 1679 note (x).

FREEHOLD,

actions for trespasses to, do not at common law survive to executor, 795.

provisions of stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 2, 795.

actions on contracts relating to, when they survive to executor, 801 *et seq.*

See tit. *Covenant*.

FRIENDLY BILLS,

what they are, 1915, 1916.

FRIENDLY SOCIETY,

debt due by officer of, in what rank his executor must pay it, 994, 995.

FRUIT,

when it passes to heir, and when to executor, 707.

FUNDS,

public. See tit. *Stocks*.

FUNERAL. See tits. *Gravestones*, *Mourning*, *Last Sickness*.

expenses of,

what allowable to executor as against creditors, 968-971, 968 note (b'), 970 note (l).

as against legatees, 971, 972.

fencing burial place, 969 note (d).

allowed out of the estate in preference to all debts and duties, 306, 988 and note (b).

of an intestate freeman to be deducted out of the whole personal estate, 1549.

of his child who dies after him, out of the child's orphanage share, 1549.

liability of executor for, when he has given no directions for the burial, 1788-1791.

FUNERAL—*continued.*

expenses of — *continued.*

charge of, upon land, its effect as to exonerating the personalty, 1708.

whether a husband can throw his wife's funeral charges on her separate estate, 1768.

retainer by executor for expenses of, 1959, 1973.

FURNACE. See tit. *Fixtures.*

## FURNITURE,

what passes by a bequest of, 1185, 1189 note (i).

"fixed furniture," 1186.

## G.

## GAME,

when it passes to executor, 704.

GAS-FIXTURES. See tit. *Fixtures.*

## GENERAL LEGACY,

pecuniary legacy usually regarded as general, 1161 note (o).

a bequest of a certain sum or the value thereof in property, 1161 note (o).

## GENERAL REPUTATION,

of subscribing witness, whether admissible to impeach his character, 352 note (g).

of testator for sanity, 360 note (n).

## GENERAL WORDS,

of bequest, when restrained by the context, 1182-1185.

GIFT. See tits. *Donatio Mortis Causâ*, *Delivery.*

deed of, may operate as a will, 104, 1620, 1621.

but a gift *inter vivos* cannot, 107, 1622, 1623.

executor not compellable to complete gift of testator, 1769.

## GOODS,

what passes by description of, 1178, 1182. See tit. *Legacy.*

ademption of specific legacy of, 1326.

## GOODS SOLD AND DELIVERED,

by executor, he may declare for, as such, 879, 1873.

to executor, he cannot be sued for as executor, 1775.

## GOODWILL,

of trade, when assets, 1658, note (g).

## GOVERNMENT,

legacy to, 1151.

## GRANDCHILDREN,

who can take under description of, in a will, 1102, 1103.

when *great* grandchildren included in this description, 1103.

cannot take under description of "children," 1097.

"children and grandchildren" include only lineal descendants, 1103 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

not entitled under the customs of London, 1537.

may be included in "sons and daughters," 1098 note (f).

**GRANDFATHER,**

preferred, in degrees of kindred, to an uncle, 423, 1510.  
 postponed to brothers and sisters, 1510.  
 by the mother's side, 1510.

**GRASS,**

when it goes to the heir, and when to the executor, 712.  
 action for cutting, when it survives to executor, 793.

**GRAVESTONES.** See tit. *Funeral*.

rule in several states, as to the right or duty of executor or administrator to provide, 969 note (d).  
 amount that may be expended to provide, 969 note (d).  
 to be considered as part of the funeral expenses, 969 note (d).  
 effect of solvency or insolvency of the estate, 969 note (d).

**GUARANTY,**

continuing; revoked by death of guarantor, 1770.

**GUARDIAN,**

testamentary, will may include the appointment of, 66 note (a<sup>1</sup>).  
 whence power to appoint, by will derived, 66 note (a<sup>1</sup>).  
 such guardianship, personal trust, 66 note (a<sup>1</sup>).  
 in general father only can appoint, 66 note (a<sup>1</sup>).  
 will appointing, in Massachusetts, must be executed as other wills, 66 note (a<sup>1</sup>).  
 effect of desire expressed by father or mother in will, on appointment of, 66 note (a<sup>1</sup>).  
 whether father's power of appointing extends to illegitimate children, 66 note (a<sup>1</sup>).  
 no particular form of appointment by will required, 66 note (a<sup>1</sup>).  
 at what age an infant may choose, 16.  
 distinction between infant and minor as to nomination of, 481.  
 his right to administration *durante minoritate*, 481.  
 when grant of administration refused to, 482.  
 appointed by ecclesiastical court, 481 and note (m).

**GUARDIANSHIP,**

person under, as a lunatic, *primâ facie* incompetent to make will, but may be shown to be competent, if he in fact is so at the time of execution, 37 and note (o).

**H.****HALF BLOOD,**

is equally near of kin with the whole blood, 422, 1109 note (P).  
 equally entitled to grant of administration, 422.  
 equally entitled to a distributive share of effects, 1511.  
 brothers, &c. of half blood shall share with their mother, 1511.

**HANDWRITING,**

proof of, when allowed, of attesting witnesses, 347 note (g), 352 note (g).  
 handwriting of all must be proved, when none can be produced, 352 note (g).

HANDWRITING — *continued.*

mode of proving handwriting in spiritual court, 348.

not sufficient alone to set up a disputed will, 68 note (i). See, also, 350.

as to effect and sufficiency of, 20 note (x<sup>1</sup>), 347 note (g), 352 note (g).  
of testator to be proved when none of the witnesses can be produced,  
and no proof of their handwriting can be had, 352 note (g).

rule that on proof of signing, instructions and knowledge of contents,  
shall be presumed, 350.

exceptions, 350. See tit. *Probate.*

comparison of, stat. 17 & 18 Vict. c. 125, s. 27, 348 note (m).

## HAWKS,

whether they pass to executor, 703 note (b).

## HEDGES,

cut down or severed, executors shall have them, 709.

## HEIR,

gift to, by will of same estate he would take as heir, 1054 note (r).

must be cited when a will is proved in solemn form affecting real estate,  
341, 563. See tit. *Probate.*

his title in certain respects exclusive of the executor, 720 *et seq.* See tits.  
*Estate, Heirloom.*

to chattels real, 670 *et seq.*

to estate *pur autre vie*, 680–686.

to mortgages, 686–688.

to rent of real estate after death of intestate, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 820 note  
(o).

to damages to the real estate by taking it for railroad, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

administrator holds rents taken by him, for benefit of heir, 817 note  
(c<sup>1</sup>), 820 note (o).

to chattels animate, 703–706.

to chattels vegetable, 707–719.

to heirlooms, &c. 720–727.

to fixtures, 727.

to property converted in equity, 657–668.

to actions on covenants real, 801 *et seq.*

power of executor to enter the house descended to heir, to remove goods,  
926.

power of heir to distrain goods of executor damage feasant, 926.

consequence of executor not removing effects from the land, 927, 987.

what he shall bring into hotchpot under the statute of distributions, 1501.

his title to a filial portion under the custom of York, 1548.

who are entitled under the description of “heirs” in a will of personalty,  
1106 *et seq.*

legacy to A. and the heirs of his body, 1107.

“A. for life, and then to the heirs of his body,” 1107.

“the heirs of ‘A.’ or ‘my heir,’” 1108.

“my heirs or next of kin,” 1110.

to A. and his heirs does not lapse, 1108.

**HEIR**—*continued.*

- when the heir entitled under the word "family," 1125.
- if the obligor makes the obligee his executor, in what cases he may sue the heir, 1048, 1817.
- when put to an election, as to a legacy, 1443.
- assets in his hands, 1687 *et seq.*
- when entitled to be exonerated by the executor, 1693 *et seq.* See tit. *Exoneration.*
- not bound by ancestor's obligation, unless named, 1724.
- of executor,
  - liability with respect to bond of ancestor, 1723.
- entitled to money covenanted to be laid out in land, 661.
- of vendor or purchaser,
  - when entitled to the estate sold, 661, 1762.
  - when entitled to have the purchase-money paid by the executor, 1762, 1763.
  - applied to his use, 1763.
- suit in county court by, where estate does not exceed 500*l.*, 2064.
- devise to the heir-at-law, void, when, 1110 note (*m*).

**HEIRLOOMS,**

- what they are strictly, 721.
  - must go to the heir by custom, 721.
  - semble*, must be of a ponderous nature, 722.
  - crown jewels, 722.
- not devisable to executors, 722.
  - but alienable by the deceased in his lifetime, 722, 723.
- chattels in the nature of, 723.
  - monuments, coat armor, &c. 723.
  - coffin and shroud, 723.
  - collar of SS. and Garter, 723.
  - ancient horn, 723.
  - journals of the house of lords, 723.
  - charters and deeds belonging to inheritance, 724.
  - box in which they are kept, 724.
- chattels settled or devised as, 725, 726.
  - proper mode of limitation, 726.
- ought not to be applied unnecessarily in the payment of debts, 726.
- chattels which go to the successor of corporation sole, in the manner of, 727.
- "HEREIN,"
  - meaning of, 9 note (*u*).
- "HEREINBEFORE,"
  - meaning of. *Wetmore v. Parker*, 52 N. Y. 464; *Colt v. Colt*, 32 Conn. 422.

**HERITABLE BOND,**

- Scotch, descends to heir, 786 note (*d*).
- heir not put to election as to, 1444.



## HEREDITARY INSANITY,

how far may be shown on questions of unsoundness of mind, 20 note (s).

## "HEIRS,"

often used as meaning only "children" or "issue," 1108 note (d), 1109 note (k).

a question of intention, 1108 note (d).

gift to heirs of person recognized as living, 1108 note (e<sup>1</sup>).

"of the body," 1108 note (e<sup>2</sup>).

"right heirs," and "heirs-at-law," 1108 note (e<sup>2</sup>).

gift to "heirs" or "heirs-at-law," referred to those who are such at testator's decease, 1124 note (d).

## HOPS,

whether they go to the executor, 710.

HOTCHPOT. See *tits. Advancement, Distribution.*

doctrine of, under the statute of distribution, 1498.

advancement by mother shall not be brought into, 1499.

a child shall not bring into, for the benefit of the mother, 1499, 1540.

doctrine of, under the customs, 1538 *et seq.* See *tit. Advancement.*

## HOUNDS,

pass to executor, 703 and note (b).

## HOUSE,

bequest of things "in and about," 1181.

of heir, power of executor to enter, to remove goods, 926.

where testator contracts to build, liability of executor to complete the works, 1794.

## HOUSEHOLD GOODS,

what passes by description of, in a will, 1181.

"goods and chattels in and about the house," 1181.

"household furniture," 1185.

"household effects," 1187.

## HUNDRED,

whether action can be maintained against by executor of lessee for injury done by rioters under stat. 7 & 8 Geo. 4, c. 31, s. 2, 795.

## HUSBAND AND WIFE,

neither next of kin to the other, 410 note (e).

## HUSBAND,

his right to be his wife's administrator, 409 *et seq.* See *tit. Administrator.*

*cum testamento annexo*, 415. See, also, 383.

right of his representatives, 413, 474, 475.

his right after her death to her effects, 1488.

right of his representatives, 1489.

to her chattels real, where vested in his possession during coverture, 695.

her administrator trustee, for his representatives, of those not vested, 695.

to her choses in action, 871-875.

HUSBAND AND WIFE — *continued.*HUSBAND — *continued.*

liability of him or his executor for debts of wife, 1767.

before marriage, 1767. And see 1767 note (p).

during marriage, 1768.

his liability for *devastavit* of wife executrix, 1836. See tit. *Devastavit*.

WIFE. See tit. *Widow.**Capacity of wife to make a will, 52-63.*

in Massachusetts, and some other states, 53 note (k<sup>2</sup>).

not affected by stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, 53.

she may make a will as executrix, 53, 414.

she may make a will by her husband's assent, 54, 414.

what is a sufficient assent, 54.

assent only available, if he survive, 55.

whether his assent may be revoked before probate, 54 note (x).

a widow may, by recognition, set up a will made before or during coverture, 55, 225.

*secus*, if the circumstances occur after January 1, 1838, 55.

she may make a will in pursuance of agreement before marriage,

or under a power, 56, 415, 416.

power must be pleaded in the allegation of the executor, 384, 56 note (l).

probate should be granted, though the power be ill executed, 57-59.

such a will not available without probate, 56, 383, 391, 561.

but the production of such probate will not alone induce a court of equity to act upon it, 561.

mode of obtaining probate, 56 note (l).

it may be proved without the husband's consent, 56, 383.

form of probate, 384.

effect of such probate, 415.

not revoked by her surviving her husband, 63, 192.

husband's right to administration *cæterorum*, 385.

to administration, when she makes a will and no executor, 415.

she may make a will of her separate property, 60, 61 and note (z<sup>1</sup>).

in reversion as well as possession, 61.

of the accretions of her separate property, 62.

property acquired by a widow cannot pass by a will made during coverture, 62.

whether she may devise real estate to husband, by recent legislation, 62 note (g).

\*will of *feme sole* revoked by marriage, 62, 192.

wife of husband banished by statute, 63.

HUSBAND AND WIFE — *continued.*WIFE — *continued.**capacity of wife to make a will — continued.*

the queen consort, 63.

wife foreigner and domiciled abroad, 63.

will of *feme covert* of property acquired after a protection order, 59, 60.

after a judicial separation, 60.

disability of, creature of civil policy, and may be dispensed with by party through whom the property is devised, 53.

differs from disability of infancy, idiocy, or lunacy, 53.

decree of probate court approving will of married woman is conclusive of her right to make it, 54 note (y).

will of, otherwise invalid, not made valid merely by death of husband in her lifetime, 56 note (f).

*Wife executrix,*

may make a will, 53.

may continue the chain of executorship, 255. But see 415.

whether if infant executrix take husband of full age, he shall have the execution, 232.

cannot accept the office without her husband's consent, 232 and note (c).

*secus*, by laws of New York, Massachusetts, and Maryland, 232 note (c).

administration taken by her, presumed to be with his consent, 233 note (d).

if she administer without his consent, whether he is bound, 233.

cannot be compelled by her husband to accept the office, 234.

how far she is bound, if he administer without her consent, 234.

her husband's liability for her *devastavit*s, 1836-1840.

her liability, as survivor, for husband's *devastavit*s, 1840, 1841.

her estate as executrix, 923.

how far she entitles her husband to the assets, 614.

her power, 963.

power of her husband, 965.

she cannot sue without her husband, 964.

nor be sued, 1936.

her appointment of a proctor, 965.

injunction to restrain, from getting in assets when her husband not amenable to process, 2015. See, also, 232 note (c).

*ne exeat regno* against, 2022, 2024.

attachment against, for want of answer, 2024.

administration *de bonis non* at her death, 415.

*Wife administratrix,*

her capacity for the office of administrator, 415, 416.

HUSBAND AND WIFE — *continued.*

WIFE — *continued.*

*Wife administratrix — continued.*

her estate, 923.

her power, 963.

power of her husband, 965.

her liability for husband's *devastavit*, 1840, 1841.

his for hers, 1840, 1841.

*Wife next of kin to an intestate,*

administration shall be granted to her, 450 and notes (i) and (k<sup>1</sup>).

not without her husband's consent, 450.

how committed to her, 450, 451.

to whom her distributive share shall be paid, 1308, 1412, 1526.

*Legacy to the wife,*

where an executor may set off debts due from husband against a legacy to the wife, 1308.

set off by administrator against husband of next of kin, 1308.

must be paid to the husband, 1413.

when and how the husband must be compelled to make her a provision out of it, 1413–1420.

how much of the legacy should be settled on her, 1414 note (d).

entitled to payment of a legacy bequeathed to her after protection order, 1413 note (b).

when given to her separate use, 1420.

to widow. See *tit. Widow.*

*Widow's right to be her husband's administratrix*, 416, 417. See *tit. Administration.*

stat. 21 Hen. 8, c. 5, 417.

she is usually preferred to next of kin, 417, 418.

forfeiture by divorce, 417, 418.

*Widow's right to a share of her husband's effects*, 1490, 1495, 1532 *et seq.*

her common law right by writ *de rationabili parte bonorum*, 2.

her right under the statute of distributions, 1490 *et seq.*

under the customs of London and York, 1532 *et seq.* See *tit. Distribution.*

*Chattels real of wife,*

right of husband's executor to, 690 *et seq.*

if they remain in *statu quo*, she will be entitled, and not the executor, 690.

and the rule is the same in equity, as in law, 690 note (s).

what amounts to a disposition by the husband, such as to bar her right, 691–695.

HUSBAND AND WIFE — *continued.*WIFE — *continued.**Chattels real of wife — continued.*

right of wife's administrator to, 695 *et seq.*

those vested during coverture go to the husband, *jure mariti*, 695.

*secus*, of those not vested, 695, 696.

and where the wife is joint tenant with another of a lease, 695 note (o).

*Separate property of wife*, 748 *et seq.* See tit. "*Married Woman's Property Act.*"

recent legislation in the American States and decisions under it, 749 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

what words will give a separate estate, 749, 750 and note (g<sup>1</sup>).

gift to the separate use of an unmarried woman excludes executors of future husband, 750, 751.

rule in American States, 751 note (j).

by ante-nuptial settlement, 751 and note (k<sup>1</sup>).

ante-nuptial agreement in writing, 752 and note (n), 756 note (h).

promissory note given by husband to wife before marriage, 752 note (m<sup>1</sup>).

by post-nuptial settlement, 753-756.

by wife's separate trading, 61 note (b), 756. See, also, 756 note (m).

by savings from wife's separate property, 757 and note (r).

by gifts from the husband, 758 and notes (s<sup>1</sup>) and (u), 770.

by stock, &c. purchased by husband and wife in their joint names, 758.

in her name only, 759 and note (z).

what is sufficient evidence of a gift by husband to wife, 759 and notes (z) and (c).

gifts from third persons, 769.

husband's right to, on her death intestate, 871 and notes (x) and (y).

husband must take letters of administration before he can represent his deceased wife's rights in court, 871 note (x<sup>1</sup>).

pin-money, &c. 760.

similar allowances, 760.

savings out of, when liable to husband's debts, 761.

in arrear when and how far recoverable, 761, 762.

paraphernalia, 763-766. See tit. *Paraphernalia.*

property acquired by a wife after a protection order under divorce act, 58, 761.

*Choses in action of wife*,

what they are, 846, 847.

HUSBAND AND WIFE — *continued.*WIFE — *continued.**Choses in action of wife — continued.*

cases as to the validity of assignments by husbands of them, 856, 857 note (m).

effect of the husband's bankruptcy on, 857 note (m).

1. right of executor of husband when wife survives, 846 *et seq.*

rule that wife is entitled, unless husband reduced them into possession, 847.

same rule applied to money and other goods and chattels in New Hampshire, 846 note (n<sup>1</sup>).

instances,

bond to wife, *dum sola*, 847.

to husband and wife during coverture, 847.

to wife alone during coverture, 847.

bill or note to wife, *dum sola*, 848.

to wife during coverture, 849–852.

by husband, whether wife may sue on after his decease, 851 note (n<sup>1</sup>).

distinction when choses in action accrue before or after marriage, 847.

stock, 852.

arrears of rent, 853, 854.

tithes, 854.

estray, 855.

portion of orphan's chamber, 855.

husband and wife lost in the same ship, 414, 855, 1204 note (e).

what amounts to a reduction into possession by husband, 856 *et seq.*

mere intention insufficient, 857, 858.

mere appropriation of fund insufficient, 858.

receipt by husband, 858, 859.

what does not amount to, 859–863.

receipt as trustee, 863.

effect of proceedings in law and equity, 863–868.

effect of arbitration, 867.

agreements *pendente lite*, 867, 868.

when executor of husband entitled to ante-nuptial settlement, 868–870.

by post-nuptial settlement, 870, 871.

2. right of administrator of wife when husband survives, 871 *et seq.*

as to her separate property, 871 and note (y).

distinction between husband's rights individually, and as administrator to wife, 874.

as to judgments and decrees, 874, 875.

HUSBAND AND WIFE — *continued.*WIFE — *continued.**Choses in action of wife — continued.*

her choses in action as executrix and administratrix, 874.

husband not entitled to revive judgment on death of wife,  
874, 875.

husband not entitled, where wife died joint tenant of a re-  
versionary chose in action, 875.

## I.

*ID CERTUM EST, QUOD CERTUM REDDI POTEST*, 1153 note (1).

## IDIOT,

capacity of, to make a will, 17.

who is to be considered, 17.

capacity of, to be executor, 238, 449.

## IF,

the word construed "when," 1086.

ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN. See tit. *Bastard.*

gifts to children of a person *deceased* who  
had only illegitimate children, 1153 note  
(1).

rights as heirs or next of kin, by statute, in  
Massachusetts and other states, 1514  
note (r).

## ILLUSORY APPOINTMENTS,

doctrine of, 1422.

(11 Geo. 4 and 1 W. 4, c. 46), valid in equity as well as law, 1422.

## IMBECILITY,

mental, arising from old age, excessive drinking, or other cause, may de-  
stroy testamentary power, 39 note (a<sup>4</sup>), 40 note (d).

## IMPERFECT PAPERS,

rule as to testamentary, 73.

distinction between "imperfect" and "unexecuted," 73.

## IMPORTUNITY,

legal sense of the word, 46.

will obtained by, 46.

## IMPRISONMENT,

for debt, abolition of, by "Debtor's Act, 1869," 1869 note (c).

## INCOME,

of tenant for life, under trust for conversion, how computed before conver-  
sion, 1391 note (1), 1392 note (s), 1395 note (x).

rules as to, 1392 note (s), 1395 note (x). See tits. *Conversion, Tenant for  
Life.*

## INDEMNITY,

whether executor entitled to, against contingent debts, before parting with  
assets to legatee, 1344 *et seq.*

**INDEMNITY** — *continued*.

every trust instrument to be deemed to contain clauses for, as to loss of assets and reimbursement of trustees, stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 31, 1828, 1829.

**INDENTURE,**

may operate as a will, 104.

**INDIA,**

administration taken in, rights of administrator, 432.

domicil in, 1521.

property in, when assets in the hands of an executor, 1766, 1767.

commission allowed to executors in, 1856 *et seq.*

necessary parties to bill for account of assets of intestate who died there, 2020 and note (q).

**INDIA STOCK,**

"East India stock," what is meant by, 1812 note (l).

**INDICTMENT,**

remedy by, in some states, for causing death of deceased by negligence, 797 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

**IN EXTREMIS,**

will made, not invalid by conclusion of law, though written by a person in relations of confidence and taking a benefit under it, 39 and note (z).

circumstances under which a will so made may be avoided, 39 and note (z).

**INDORSER,**

deceased, notice of dishonor of note after decease and before executor or administrator appointed. *Mathewson v. Strafford Bank*, 45 N. H. 107.

**INFANT,**

capacity of, to make a will, 15 *et seq.*

males above fourteen, females above twelve, 16.

if they have sufficient discretion, 16.

males cannot make a will earlier by custom, 16.

after that age, may make a will without consent of father, 16.

may make it on the day of attaining that age, 16.

republiation, by approval at that age, of will made during minority, 17, 225.

stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, 15.

will by minor who is a soldier, 118.

age required for making will in the American States, 15 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

distinction between age for personal and that for real property in some states, 15 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

distinction between males and females in some states, 15 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

how age computed, 17 note (y).

at what age capable of choosing a guardian, 16, 481, 482.

assignment of guardian by the court, 481.

may be appointed executor at any age, 231.

*sole* executor, cannot act till twenty-one, 231.



INFANT — *continued*.

- whether if an executrix infant take husband of full age, he shall have execution, 232.
- bill in equity does not lie for account of administration of, 2013.
- cannot consent to probate in common form, 329.
- next of kin,
  - administration granted to another *durante minoritate*, 449.
  - case where a *feme covert* is a foreigner and a minor, 450.
- distinction between, and a minor, 481.
- conversion of property by trustees of, 666.
- payment of distributive share due to, 1405 *et seq.*, 1526.
- legacy to,
  - at what time to be paid, 1397, 1398 and note (*k*).
  - to whom to be paid, 1405-1409.
    - stat. 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, 1407.
  - when executor may allow maintenance out of, 1408.
    - by 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s. 26, trustees may apply income of property of infants for their maintenance, 1409.
  - confirmation by, after attaining majority, of previous application of legacy, 1409.
  - when the court will order it, 1410-1413.
- trustees' orders made in respect of estates of, by the court of chancery, 2056.

## INFLUENCE,

- will obtained by, 46-51, 60.
- what sort will annul a will, and what will not, 47 and notes (*r*), (*r*<sup>1</sup>), (*s*), 49, 50 and note (*c*<sup>2</sup>)
- dependent on religious feelings, or spiritualism, 47 note (*u*).
- acting upon weak minds, 48 and note (*u*<sup>4</sup>).
- upon persons suffering from sickness, or affected by intemperance, 48 note (*u*<sup>4</sup>).
- presumed where attorney of testator draws the will and takes a legacy under it, 48 note (*x*).
- but presumption may be rebutted, 48 note (*x*).
- presumed, in other cases where there are relations of confidence or dependence, 48 note (*x*).
- provisions of will in favor of party exercising undue influence, void, 48.
- undue influence or fraud affecting whole will, 48 note (*a*).
- whether the influence must be fraudulently exerted, 49 note (*b*<sup>1</sup>).
- burden of proving, 50 and note (*c*<sup>1</sup>).
- kind of evidence admissible to prove, 51 note (*d*).
- will approved, or remaining unrevoked, after testator relieved from, 51 note (*d*).
- declarations and acts of testator admissible to prove or rebut, 51 note (*d*). See tit. *Declarations of Testator*.
- whether will made under, may be confirmed by subsequent recognition, 51 note (*d*).
- exerted to prevent testator from revoking will, 51 note (*d*).

## INHABITANTS,

legacy to, 1150.

## IN ITINERE,

as to domicile of person, for purposes of administration, 430 note (l).

## INJUNCTION,

to restrain *feme covert* executrix from getting in the assets when her husband is not amenable to process, 232 note (c).

to restrain insolvent or bankrupt executor, 236, 237.

to restrain assignees of bankrupt executor from paying over the fund to him, 236 note (u).

to restrain creditor from proceeding at law, 1913 *et seq.*

although he sues for unascertained damages, 1914.

the rule extends to proceedings in foreign countries, 1914 and note (i).

cannot be had until there is a decree or order, 1915.

time within which it should be applied for, 1918.

ground on which it is granted, 1915, 1916 and note (o).

a legatee as well as the plaintiff or defendant may apply for it, 1915 note (k).

it may be obtained by motion in the existing suit, 1914.

allowance of costs to the plaintiff at law, 1917, 1918.

consequence of executor permitting the creditor to proceed at law after a decree, 1918.

after a judgment obtained at law against the executor, 1918 *et seq.*

after a false plea pleaded by him, 1924.

proper form of order of injunction, 1917 note (s).

to restrain proceedings at law against the heir, 1926.

to restrain executor from parting with estate, no ground for staying proceedings in an action in which the debt is not admitted, 2003.

to restrain executor from proceeding at law against plaintiff in equity, 1907.

in an administration suit to restrain proceedings in a foreign country, 1907.

to restrain the controverting a will in the probate court, 558.

to restrain publication of testator's letters, 1900.

effect of, as regards staying proceedings at law, 2003.

## INOFFICIOUS WILL, 33 note (c), 38.

## IN REM,

probate proceedings to establish wills, and to constitute succession to deceased person's estate, are to some extent, 45 note (h), 332 note (g<sup>2</sup>).

INSANITY. See *tit. Lunatic, Weakness.*

what is, 19, 33.

eccentric habits, belief in supernatural agency are not, 30 note (z).

criterion of, 33-37.

partial insanity, 30-33.

INSANITY — *continued.*

what is — *continued.*

hereditary constitutional, 20 note (*s*).

insanity of parents and uncle may be shown, 20 note (*s*).

moral insanity, 20 note (*s*).

suicide, effect of in proof of insanity, 20 note (*x*).

*onus* of proof on party asserting it, 20.

letters written to testator no evidence of sanity, 43.

will made by person insane, 19, 20.

does not become valid though testator recover his mind, 19, 225.

during lucid interval, 21–28.

transfer in such case of *onus probandi*, 21, 22 note (*b*).

what is proof of lucid interval, 21–28.

act of making rational will, 23–27. See 25 note (*k*).

effect to be given to contents and character of will, in proof of capacity, 26 note (*l*).

distinction between delirium and insanity, 28.

temporary delirium caused by disease or otherwise, 23 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).

a will may be established though all the attesting witnesses depose to testator's insanity, 37.

effect of commission of lunacy, 37.

republication of, after recovery of mind, 225.

administration granted on motion, notwithstanding, 453 note (*a*).

will not revoked by subsequent insanity, 19 note (*r*), 191.

by insanity supervening between the instructions and the execution, 43.

an insane person cannot be an executor, 238.

grant of administration to another when executor becomes insane 238.

revocation of administration granted to administrator who has become insane, 579.

stock standing in name of insane trustee or executor (stat. 13 & 14 Vict. c. 60), 2055.

subsequent, does not revoke will, 19 note (*r*).

## INSOLVENT,

assignee of, on his death the estate of the insolvent vests in his executor, 653.

appointed executor, probate cannot be refused to, 236, 387.

control of, by appointing a receiver, or by requiring security, 236, 237.

priority of the debts of one who has taken the benefit of the insolvent act, 1995.

executor of assignee of, liable for breaches of covenant in lease granted to insolvent, 1761.

executor having committed *devastavit*, discharged under the act, 2054.

when the statute of limitations begins to run as to debts due from, 2028.

**INSOLVENT**—*continued.*

- proceedings when estate is, 989 and note (*g*<sup>1</sup>), 991, 1037, 1862 note (*r*<sup>2</sup>), 1909, 1915 and note (*o*<sup>1</sup>), 1931 note (*g*<sup>1</sup>).
- order in which debts are to be paid when estate is insolvent, 991 note (*p*).
- as to preference under laws of the United States as to debts due the United States, 991 note (*p*).
- extends to debts generally, 991 note (*p*).
- and operates in favor of surety who pays such debt, 991 note (*p*).
- as to taxes, 991 note (*p*).
- judgments and decrees, 991 note (*p*), 1036 note (*e*).
- as to the rights of a surety who has paid joint judgment against himself and deceased, 991 note (*p*).
- liability of executor or administrator who does not observe the order of payment, 991 note (*p*).
- the order of payment creates no lien on the estate, 991 note (*p*).
- rights of executor or administrator, who has paid some of the debts in full, of an estate, which proves afterwards to be insolvent, 1036 note (*h*).
- in case he knows of insolvency when he pays debts, 1036 note (*h*).

**INSTRUCTIONS,**

- for a will,
  - when they shall operate as a will, 43, 70-72, 71 note (*x*).
  - must be in writing, 71.
  - sent in a letter may be established, 109 note (*z*).
  - when insanity supervened before the execution of the will, 43.
  - shall be presumed on proof of signing by testator, 350.
  - revoked by subsequent will, 168.
  - exceptions, 350, 351. See *tit. Probate*.
  - have no effect on the construction of will, 1087.

**INSURANCE,**

- powers of executors of assured to re-assure, 944.
- of executors of assurer to procure indorsement of policy, 944.
- insurable interest of executor, 1677 note (*g*).
- executors not bound to insure or continue insurance, 1808 note (*p*).

**INTENT,**

- particular, in will, to be sacrificed to the general, 1080.

**INTEREST,**

- money due for,
  - may be apportioned, 837.
- upon legacies, 1423 *et seq.*
  - on specific legacies, 1423 and note (*p*).
  - charged on real estate, 1423 notes (*r*) and (*i*<sup>1</sup>).
  - on general legacies, 1423.
  - where no time for payment is fixed, 1424 1427.
  - where legacy is directed to be paid "as soon as possible," 1424.
  - where legacy directed to be paid with interest, 1424 note (*w*).

INTEREST — *continued.*

upon legacies — *continued.*

on annuities, 1427 and note (*p*).

on legacies for life, 1428.

where time for payment is fixed, 1428 and note (*q*<sup>1</sup>).

legacies to children of testator, 1428, 1429.

when it is the apparent intention that the legatee should be maintained thereout, 1430.

on legacy given to child by parent or one standing *in loco parentis*, interest from death, 1424, 1425, 1429 note (*y*).

this favor not extended to god-daughter, nor to niece, 1425 note (*z*).

nor to child, if other provision is made in the will, 1425 note (*z*).

as to widow, 1425 and note (*z*).

as to a grandchild, 1425 note (*z*), 1429 note (*y*).

as to natural child, 1425 and note (*z*).

not extended to adults, 1425 and note (*f*).

on legacy to minor having no guardian, 1426 note (*i*).

when legacy voluntarily paid or invested within year, 1426 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

from time legacy due although executor has not available assets, and although no demand made, 1426 note (*k*<sup>2</sup>).

where sum bequeathed to executors to be put at interest and income paid over, 1427 note (*n*<sup>1</sup>).

legacy given with interest, 1424 note (*w*), 1430.

of legacy during lifetime of infant legatee, whose death under age devests the legacy, 1430.

rate of interest, 1431, 1432.

compound interest, 1433 note (*i*).

legatee refunding not to be charged with, 1452.

in what cases executor, to be charged with, in his accounts, 1844 *et seq.*

general rules and principles as to, in Massachusetts and other American States, 1844 note (*a*), 1845 note (*c*).

liability to pay interest depends upon a performance or failure to perform the duties of the office, under the circumstances, 1845 note (*c*).

if there be unreasonable neglect or refusal to account, 1845 note (*c*).

annual rests, 1845 note (*c*), 1849 notes (*b*) and (*d*<sup>1</sup>), 1850 notes (*e*) and (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

on amount improperly retained as commissions which are disallowed, 1845 note (*c*).

on balance after deducting commissions, 1845 note (*c*).

on sums received and not applied to the purposes of the estate, 1845 note (*c*).

effect, when settlement of accounts is delayed by proceedings in court, 1845 note (*c*).

improperly delaying to invest when executor is guardian or trustee, or directed to invest, 1845 note (*c*), 1849 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

**INTEREST** — *continued.*

- in what cases executor to be charged with, &c. — *continued.*
  - time from which interest is to be computed, 1845 note (c).
  - compound interest, 1845 note (c), 1849 note (b), 1850 note (e), 1851 notes (l) and (m<sup>2</sup>).
  - mode of ascertaining balance on which interest is to be computed, 1845 note (c), 1850 note (k<sup>1</sup>).
  - funds paid into court, 1845 note (c).
  - amount per cent., 1846 and note (u), 1847.
  - where funds of estate have been employed in business, 1849 note (b), 1850 notes (e) and (k<sup>1</sup>).
  - where executor has mixed trust funds with his own, or has neglected to keep regular accounts, 1850 note (k<sup>1</sup>).
  - where he refuses to disclose the use he has made of the funds, and has been in habit of receiving compound interest, 1850 note (k<sup>1</sup>).
  - at what rate, 1845.
- allowance of, to executor for money advanced by him, 1861 and note (o).
- what passes by a bequest of the "interest" of a particular fund, 1193, 1194.
- payment of, on bond of testator, no admission of assets, 1972.

**INTERLINEATIONS.** See tit. *Alterations.*

- by inserting additional bequests after making of will, in presence of original witnesses, 144 note (f<sup>2</sup>).
- if alterations or interlineations are not properly authenticated they do not invalidate the will, but leave it as it was before, 144 note (f<sup>2</sup>), 152 note (h).
- in a holograph will, 144 note (f<sup>2</sup>).
- as to alterations in will made by parties interested, 144 note (f<sup>2</sup>).
- by strangers, 144 note (f<sup>2</sup>).

**INTERROGATORIES,**

- will made by, valid, 46, 108, 109.
- nuncupative will, 122.

**INTESTACY,**

- proof must be made of, before granting administration, 401 note (a).
- to prevent, object sought in construction of will, *Dole v. Johnson*, 3 Allen, 365, 368.

**INVENTORY,**

- stat. 21 Hen. 8, c. 5, as to inventory by executor, 973.
- stat. 23 Car. 2, c. 10, as to inventory by administrator, 974.
- ancient ecclesiastical law respecting, 974.
- was in special cases decreed by the prerogative court before probate or administration, 975 note (c).
- in what cases, and by whom, the exhibiting of, is compellable, 975, 2059.
  - after what lapse of time, 978.
  - what persons are compellable to exhibit, 979.
  - consequences of hanging back when inventory assigned, 980.

INVENTORY — *continued.*

- duty of executor or administrator as to return of inventory, 539 note (c), 974 notes (x<sup>1</sup>) and (a<sup>1</sup>).
- liable on bond for not returning a true and perfect inventory, without citation, 538 note (c), 974 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- where executor who is residuary legatee is allowed to give bond to pay debts and legacies, no inventory is required of him, 974 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- remedy for failure to exhibit inventory when required, 985 note (A).
- form and contents of, 980–982, 2060.
- must include all property coming to hands or knowledge of executor or administrator, 980 note (m<sup>1</sup>).
- provisions, notes, and accounts, 980 note (m<sup>1</sup>).
- notes though in hands of a stranger, 980 note (m<sup>1</sup>).
- assets belonging to estate of deceased resident, though situated in another state, 980 note (m<sup>1</sup>).
- debts due from the executor or administrator, 980 (m<sup>1</sup>).
- in Massachusetts real estate must be inventoried, 974 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- as to real estate fraudulently conveyed, 980 note (m<sup>1</sup>).
- money in hands of wife, 980 note (m<sup>1</sup>).
- importance of inventorying *choses in action*, 980 note (m<sup>1</sup>).
- must be returned by administrator *de bonis non*, 980 note (m<sup>1</sup>).
- by executor, who qualifies on death of one who previously qualifies, 973 note (x<sup>1</sup>).
- time for returning, 974 note (a<sup>1</sup>).
- appraisal of property inventoried, 974 note (a<sup>1</sup>), 975 note (c).
- in some states an additional inventory required in case of new or other assets; in other states executor or administrator is chargeable for such new assets only in his accounts, 974 note (a<sup>1</sup>), 981 note (r).
- second inventory to correct former erroneous one, 981 note (r).
- whether the probate court can entertain objections to, 982, 985 note (A), 2061 *et seq.*
- effect of,
  - in evidence on a plea of *plene administravit*, 1968–1970.
  - where debt is desperate, 981 note (n), 1966 note (u<sup>1</sup>), 1967 note (x<sup>1</sup>).
  - presumption where debt is inventoried without comment, 981 note (n), 1967 note (x<sup>1</sup>).
  - not conclusive for or against executor or administrator, 1966 note (t).
  - primâ facie* evidence of amount and value, 1966 note (t).
  - executor or administrator *primâ facie* liable for goods disposed of by him, at their inventoried value, 1966 note (t).
  - presumption arising from the inventory, in states requiring real estate to be inventoried, 1966 note (t).
  - valuation in inventory may be shown to be too high, 1966 note (t).
  - so it may be shown that the property has been disposed of for more than valuation in the inventory, 1866 note (t).
  - so that it is of greater value, when taken by the executor or administrator, 1966 note (t).

**INVENTORY** — *continued.*

effect of — *continued.*

provision by statute in Massachusetts as to loss or gain on inventory, 1966 note (i).

as to debts which remain uncollected, 1966 note (u<sup>1</sup>).

custom of London as to, 986, 1547.

given to executor by tenant for life of chattels, 1396.

**INVESTMENTS,**

by executor. See tit. *Devastavit*.

rules for investment in England and in the United States, in cases of bequest for life, in trust, and remainder over, 1391 note (l), 1392 note (s), 1394 notes (l<sup>1</sup>) and (u).

in public securities, not required in Massachusetts, 1394 note (l<sup>1</sup>).

recognized rule that trustees in making investments shall act in good faith, 1394 note (l<sup>1</sup>).

duty of executor as to, 1808 note (x).

as to the funds in which investments should be made, 1809 note (x).

made or changed by direction of will, 1809 note (y).

**IRELAND,**

assets in, 1662.

probates granted in, to be of like force as probates granted in England on being resealed, by stat. 20 & 21 Vict. c. 79, s. 95, 264.

probate of will of testator domiciled in, under the old law, 369.

under the present law, 374.

**ISSUE,**

who are entitled under a gift to "issue" in a will of personalty, 1110.

when they take *per capita*, and when *per stirpes*, 1112 note (x), 1513 note (q).

to A: and his issue, 1110.

to several persons and the issue of their respective bodies, 1110.

to several persons and their respective issue to take *per stirpes*, 1111.

to A. and his issue as tenants in common, 1111.

to A. for life and after his death to his issue, 1111.

what is meant by "failure of issue" 1106 note (w).

when all descendants take under the description of, 1112 and note (x).

when children only, 1112 and note (x).

when words "children" and "issue" used indiscriminately, 1112 note (x).

as to the distinction between "issue" and "children," 1111 note (x).

"without having issue," construed "without issue," 1086.

on the due execution of will, sanity of testator, undue influence, &c. See tits. *Burden of Proof*, *Opening and Close*.

may be formed for trial by jury of questions of fact arising in probate proceedings, 292 note (o<sup>2</sup>).

**ITINERE.** See tit. *In Itinere*.



## J.

## JEWELS,

what passes by bequest of, 1198.

## JOINDER,

of parties. See tit. *Parties*.

of counts. See tit. *Declarations*.

## JOINT CONTRACT,

interest in, when it passes to executor, 848.

remedy upon, does not go to executor, 1864, 1865.

except when the *interest* is several, 1865.

liability on does not survive at law against executor, 1740, 1741.

when it does in equity, 1741-1748.

joint and several bond of testator, 1012. See tit. *Bond*.

joint bond of testator, 1018.

## JOINT TENANTS,

personalty, of which the deceased was joint tenant, shall not at law go to his executor, 650.

*secus*, in equity, 1900.

except in the case of partners in trade, &c. 651.

leases held by, 679.

legacy to, does not lapse by the death of one, but survives to the other, 1215, 1461.

survivorship between, as to residue, &c. 1461, 1462 and note (*k*).

when legatees take as, 1461.

JOINT WILLS. See tit. *Mutual Wills*.

## JOURNEYS ACCOUNTS,

writ by,

what it is, 1882 note (*m*).

origin of the term, 1882 note (*m*).

where *plaintiff* dies, the writ cannot be brought by his executor, 1882.

nor by a general executor upon a writ by executor *durante minore ætate*, 1883.

nor by a general administrator, 488, 1883.

where *defendant* dies, the plaintiff may have the writ against his executor, 1952; but see note (*s*).

## JUDGE,

executors of, *scire facias* against, to certify bill of exceptions, 1769.

of probate court disqualified by interest, relationship, affinity, or having

written the will, 292 note (*p*); *Hall v. Thayer*, 105 Mass. 219; 575

note (*d*<sup>1</sup>), 587 note (*e*).

## JUDGMENT,

for testator,

how to be enforced by the executor, 898 *et seq.*

*fi. fa.* or *sa. ca.* issued in testator's lifetime may be executed after his death, 1898. See, also, 901.

JUDGMENT — *continued.*

against testator,

its precedence in payment by executors to all other debts, 996 *et seq.*  
 what sort of judgment, 997.

if entered up after testator's death, under 17 Car. 2, c. 8,  
 997.

but not if entered up under 8 & 9 W. 3, 998.

must formerly have been docketed, 999, 1000.

docketing abolished by 2 Vict. c. 11, 1001.

effect of not docketing, before the 2 Vict. c. 11, 1000.

to affect testator's lands, must be registered, 1001.

judgments not docketed to have no priority, 23 & 24 Vict. c. 38, s. 3,  
 1002.

foreign judgment, 998.

Irish judgment, 998.

the judgments have no precedence amongst themselves, 1004.

whether executor may postpone payment by writ of error, 1004.

executor liable upon, whether the cause of action would have survived  
 or not, 1740.

in some states judgments and bond debts have no preference over sim-  
 ple contracts, 1036 note (e).

remedy upon, 1991.

by writ of revivor, or entry of suggestion, 1992.

after judgment of execution, the plaintiff may bring debt sug-  
 gesting a *devastavit* against the executor, 1993, 1994.

*nunc pro tunc*, 893-895, 894 note (r).

against executor or administrator,

what it ought to be, 1975.

on plea of *non est factum testatoris*, 1975.

release to testator, 1975.

*plene administravit*, 1975, 1976.

to what amount, 1976, 1977.

against one of several executors, 1978.

*ne unques executor*, 1975.

release to executor, 1975.

difference in effect between a judgment *de bonis propriis*, and a judg-  
 ment *de bonis testatoris*, 1975.

of assets *in futuro*, 1980 notes (q) and (s), 1981.

cannot be had when plea of *plene administravit* is traversed, 1981.

But see 1980 note (q), 1982 note (a).

plaintiff, by taking it, admits the assets fully administered to  
 that time, 1981-1983 and note (a).

in debt or *scire facias* upon, he cannot show assets before  
 the judgment, 1981.

costs on, 1980 note (q), 1983 and note (e).

execution on, 1994.

writ of revivor substituted for *scire facias* by C. L. P. Act, 1852,  
 1994.

JUDGMENT — *continued.*

against executor or administrator — *continued.*

proceedings on judgment against executor, 1984.

by *fiery facias*, 1984.

by *scire fieri* inquiry, 1984–1987.

by attachment under 17 & 18 Vict. c. 125, s. 41, 1984 note (*f*).

by action of debt suggesting a *devastavit*, 1987 *et seq.*

its rank in the payment of debts, 998.

without notice of a superior debt, may be pleaded in bar, 1029.

what is sufficient notice to bind executor, 1030.

executor's power of preference by confessing judgments, 1033, 1034.

after plea pleaded, 1034.

equity will not interpose, 1034.

such judgment presumed well founded until contrary appears, 1034 note (*q*).

confessed by one administrator in favor of another, suspicious, 2034 note (*q*).

suffered by an administrator in a case where he is interested, 1034 note (*q*).

he cannot confess judgment to a trustee for several creditors, 1035.

preference by plea of *plene administravit præter*, 1035.

pleading an unsatisfied judgment and *plene administravit præter*, 1956.

recovered by executor in one state may be sued on by him in another, 883 note (*n*), 1871 note (*o*).

proceedings after death or removal of executor or administrator on judgment rendered for or against him, 594 note (*n*).

joint judgment against two or more sued as executors, 1935 note (*c*).

## JUDICIAL SEPARATION,

will of *feme covert* of property acquired after, 60.

JURISDICTION. See *tit. Bona Notabilia, Court of Probate.*

exclusive, of the ecclesiastical court as to probates and grants of administration transferred to the probate court, 291.

in what cases a court of equity will interfere, 552 *et seq.* See, also, 45.

trustees out of, court of chancery may make orders as to estates of, 2056.

executor being out of, "at the expiration of twelve months" from death of testator, means "at or after" the expiration of twelve months, 503 note (*o*).

## JURY,

292 note (*o*<sup>8</sup>).

## JUS ACCRESCENDI, 651.

*disponendi*, as to partnership chattels, 651 note (*g*).

## K.

KIN. See tit. *Next of Kin*.

## KING,

- capacity of the king to make a will of personalty, 12.
  - stat. 39 & 40 Geo. 3, c. 88, s. 10, 12.
- probate of his will,
  - the probate court has no jurisdiction to grant, or letters of administration, 12.
  - but the will cannot be relied on without probate, 293.
- may be constituted executor, 228.
  - he may, in such case, appoint persons to officiate the will, 228.
- debts due to,
  - from executor, goods of deceased not liable to satisfy, 636.
  - their priority, 991, 995, 1025.

## KNOWLEDGE OF CONTENTS OF WILL,

- by testator,
  - necessary to be shown, when, 111 and notes (s) and (t), 113, 114, 115 and note (x<sup>5</sup>).
  - presumed, when, 115 note (x<sup>5</sup>).
    - upon proof of capacity and fact of execution, 115 note (x<sup>5</sup>), 350 and note (x).
- as to blind testators,
  - knowledge of contents of will must appear, 18, 115 note (x<sup>5</sup>), 351 and notes (z) and (a).
- as to testators unable to read from any cause, 351 note (a).
- as to testators whose capacity appears to be doubtful, 113, 114, 115 note (x<sup>5</sup>).

## L.

## LACHES,

- effect of, as to barring proceedings in equity, 2025 note (t).

## LAND,

- acquired after making will, 6 note (d).
- pass by will in England and in the American States, 6 note (d).

LANDLORD AND TENANT. See tits. *Rent*, *Fixtures*.

- apportionment of rent under lease made by tenant for life, 826 *et seq.*
- covenant to repair,
  - when executor liable upon, 1726.
  - personally, 1759.
- covenant to pay rent, 1751.
  - liability of executor upon, 1751 *et seq.* See tit. *Rent*.
  - after assignment, 1758.
  - personal liability of executor for rent in his own time, 1752 *et seq.*
- covenant to discharge tenant of quit rent, when executor of landlord liable on, 1726.

## LANGUAGE,

- of a will, 108-110. See tit. *Will*.
- may be in any tongue, 108, 110.
- probate of will in foreign, 566.

## LAPSED LEGACIES,

- lapse by death of legatee *before* testator's, 1204-1223.

- general rule of lapse, unless legatee survives testator, 1204 and note (d).

- rule applicable equally to devise of real and bequest of personal estate, 1204 note (d).

- cases of doubt as to which of two persons survives, in a common catastrophe, 1204 note (e).

- bequest of debt due from legatee to testator, 1205.

- where legacy is given to the legatee *and his executors*, &c. 1206.

- no lapse by death of legatee in trust, 1223.

- rule controlled by manifest intention, 1207.

- legacy to a man, *or* his personal representatives, 1209.

- and his heirs, 1207.

- legacy to A. and B. and upon their death to their heirs, 1211, and note (c).

- whether children can take in lieu of their parent where their parent would have had no title, 1211 note (c).

- where the issue take as substitutes and predecease their parent they are not entitled, 1214, 1215 note (c).

- secus*, if they take by original gift, 1215.

- but they need not in either case survive the tenant for life, 1215.

- lapse of legacy under a power by death of legatee before appointer, 1212.

- legacies given to joint tenants, 1215.

- tenants in common, 1215 and note (f).

- in a class, 1216.

- with a clause of survivorship, 1216, 1217.

- devise to "surviving children of late sister, not knowing their names," 1216 note (i).

- effect of naming individuals of a class, on survivorship, 1216 note (i).

- bequest to be taken in connection with context, 1216 note (i).

- legacy to two persons and the survivor of them, 1217 note (k).

- whether the accrued as well as original shares pass to survivors, 1217 and notes (m<sup>1</sup>) and (o).

- executors in a class, 1218, 1467.

- in what cases a legacy in remainder will lapse by death of the prior legatee in the testator's life, 1218-1220, 1219 note (s).

LAPSED LEGACIES — *continued*.

lapse by death of legatee *before* testator's — *continued*.

legacy to child, when lapse of, prevented by stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, 1221–1223.

corresponding statutes in American States, 1221 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

to what cases they apply, 1221 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

to "child or other relation of testator" in Massachusetts, 1221 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

to "child or other descendants of the testator" in New York, 1221 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

in Pennsylvania, 1221 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

lapse by death of legatee *after* testator's, 1223–1251.

when no period for payment is specified, 1223 and note (o).

if legatee die within a year from testator's death, no lapse, 1223.

when a future time for payment is specified, 1224 *et seq.*

legacy vested or contingent,

Rule 1. when the bequest is immediate and payment alone postponed, vested, 1225–1229, 1224, note (q<sup>1</sup>).

legacy "*to be paid*" at twenty-one, 1225.

rule controlled by apparent intention, 1226, 1224, notes (q<sup>1</sup>) and (q<sup>2</sup>).

as that the legacies shall not vest till the debts are paid, 1226.

*dies incertus conditionem facit*, 1227.

law is said to favor vesting, 1225 note (s<sup>1</sup>).

but not to the extent of defeating intent of testator, 1225 note (s<sup>1</sup>).

Rule 2. a legacy given "at," "if," "when," "in case of," "provided," the legatee attains twenty-one, contingent, 1229 *et seq.*

direction to transfer "from and after," or to pay at, a future period, 1232.

exceptions to the rule, 1232 *et seq.*

gift of intermediate interest, 1233–1238.

previous estate to another, 1239.

when a gift is postponed for the convenience of the fund, it is vested, 1243.

*secus*, when the obtaining a certain age is part of the description of the legatee, 1243.

legacies given over on a contingency, 1244.

vesting of portions, 1248.

legacies given by way of remainder to children, &c. in a class, 1092.

bequest to a class void for remoteness as to one member void altogether, 1250.

when contingent interests in legacies pass to executors of legatee, 887, 1203 *et seq.*, 1225 note (s<sup>1</sup>).

LAPSED LEGACIES — *continued.*

lapse by death of legatee *after* testator's — *continued.*

when a future time for payment is specified — *continued.*

legacy vested or contingent — *continued.*

strong inclination of courts to prevent lapse of a residuary bequest, 1229 note (i).

effect of declaration by testator as to time of vesting, 1295.

lapse of legacies payable out of real estate, 1251–1255.

charged on a mixed fund of realty and personalty, 1255–1257.

devisee of an estate charged with legacies takes the whole estate, if legacies fail, 1458 note (r).

when residuary legatees entitled to, 1458 *et seq.*

distinction in English authorities between lapsed devises of real, and lapsed legacies of personal estate, 1459 note (v<sup>1</sup>).

abrogated in states where devise operates on all of testator's real estate at his death, 1459 note (v<sup>1</sup>).

distinction between lapsed and void devises, 1459 note (v<sup>1</sup>).

destination of void devise, 1459 note (v<sup>1</sup>).

whether failure of intervening estate accrues to the benefit of the heir or residuary devisee, determined with reference to intention, &c. 1459 note (x).

## LAST SICKNESS.

preference as to expense of, 988 note (b), 991 note (p).

rule as to its duration, 988 note (b).

where assets not sufficient to pay all expenses, of, to be divided ratably, 988 note (b).

services of nurse, 988 note (b).

## LAST WILL,

reference in codicil to, 213 note (d).

a later will of which nothing is known but that it was headed "last will," is no revocation, 166.

## LAWS,

of the states, in which administrations and letters testamentary are taken out, govern, as to the discharge of duties, and accountability imposed by them, 362 note (u).

of place of domicil of testator at time of death, regulates the execution and validity of wills of personal estate, 366 and note (m).

as to wills of real estate, 366 note (n).

in some states by statute all wills are held valid which are executed according to the law of the state where made, 366 note (n), 372 note (s<sup>1</sup>).

whether will to be made in conformity with laws existing at the time of its execution, or at death of testator, 374 notes (s<sup>2</sup>) and (s<sup>3</sup>), 1515 note (u).

effect of change of domicil after will is made, 375 note (s<sup>3</sup>).

effect of return after such change, 375 note (s<sup>3</sup>).

as to distribution, 371. See tit. *Distribution.*

as to construction of wills, 371 note (i).

as to rules of evidence, 366 note (n), 371 note (i).

**LEASE.** See *tit. Rent, Tenant.*

for years,

disposable by will as personal property at common law, 1.

passes in all cases to the executor, 673. See *tit. Estate.*

devised in tail, 676.

specifically devised, 679.

proviso for forfeiture if executor of lessee shall become bankrupt, 638.

executor cannot in general waive it, 680.

except when he has no assets, and the profits are less than the rent, 1757.

terms attendant on the inheritance, 680.

when assets, 1675, 1676.

*devastavit* in respect of, 1798.

to what extent assets, 1657 and note (1).

equitable interest in terms, 680.

bequest of, when deemed by surrender and acceptance of new lease, 1328-1330.

trustee of, refusing to assign, 2056.

*pur auter vie*, 680. See *tit. Estate pur auter vie.*

for life, remainder to executors of lessee, 697 *et seq.*

power of executor to assign or underlet, 939, 1750 and note (1).

when restrained by a condition not to assign, 940-943.

underlease by executor or administrators,

if the rent be reserved to himself, it will, on his death, go to his executors and not to the administrator *de bonis non*, 648, 939.

but such executor cannot distrain, 932.

renewed by executor, shall be assets, 1656.

**LEAVING,**

the word construed "having," 1086.

**LEGACY.** See *tit. Legatee.*

definition of, 1051.

what it includes, 1051 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

charge of support, 1051 note (a).

whether may include real estate, 1051 note (a).

an annuity, 1051 note (a).

distinguishable from a gift of a residue, 1051 note (a).

to superstitious and charitable uses, 1055 *et seq.* See *tit. Charitable Uses.*

Lapsed legacies See *tit. Lapsed Legacies.*

Specific legacies, 1158 *et seq.* See *tit. Specific Legacies.*

Demonstrative legacies, 1159.

charged on particular property, 1161 note (s).

Of the description of the things bequeathed, 1178 *et seq.*

"goods," "chattels," "effects," "things," 1178.

"household goods," 1181.

goods and chattels in and about the house, 1181.



LEGACY — *continued.*

Of the description of the things bequeathed — *continued.*

- “goods” and other general words restrained by the context, 1182–1185.
- “household furniture,” 1182 note (b), 1185.
- “household effects,” 1187.
- “fixed furniture,” 1186.
- “stock on farm,” 1187 and note (b).
- “live and dead stock,” 1187 note (b).
- “stock in trade,” 1187 note (b).
- “plantation stock,” 1187 note (b).
- “all my stock of different kinds,” 1187 note (b).
- “movables,” “indoor movables,” 1187 note (b).
- other expressions, 1187 note (b).
- “stock in an insurance company,” 1191 note (s).
- “bank stock” does not carry dividends already declared, 1191 note (s).
- “use, income, and interest” of certain personal property during life, 1193 note (i).
- “utensils,” 1188 and note (d).
- “money,” 1188–1191, 1188 note (e), 1189 notes (g) and (i), 1190 note (l).
- “securities” for money, 1192.
- “note” and “notes of hand,” 1192 note (z).
- carries interest due, 1196 note (u).
- “money in the funds,” 1191.
- “interest” or “dividends” of a particular fund, 1192, 1193 and note (n<sup>1</sup>).
- “annuity,” 1193–1195 note (n<sup>1</sup>).
- “debts,” 1196.
- “jewels, pearls, necklaces,” 1198.
- “books,” 1198.
- “personal ornaments,” 1198.
- “linen and clothes,” 1199.
- “medals,” 1199.
- “portraits,” 1199.
- “plantation” in West Indies, 1187 note (b), 1199.
- effect of the words “property,” “personal property,” “estate,” &c. 1178 note (g), 1182 note (b), 1185 note (p), 1187 note (b).
- “corn, fodder, meat, and other provisions on hand,” 1181 note (u).
- “all my books and papers of every description,” may include promissory notes payable to testator, 1182 note (d).
- watch not “wearing apparel,” nor “household furniture, and other articles for family use,” 1185 note (m).
- money in secret drawer of chest does not pass by a specified bequest of the chest, 1185 note (m).
- as to the expression “a chest” and “all that is in it, 1185 note (m).

LEGACY — *continued.*

Of the description of the things bequeathed — *continued.*

property contracted for by testator will pass by description of it as his actual property, 1202.

bequest to purchase annuity for life for legatee, 1195.

mistakes in the description of a legacy, 1199–1201.

rectified by reference to the terms of the gift and evidence of extrinsic circumstances, 1199.

Vested or contingent, 1203 *et seq.* See tit. *Lapsed Legacies.*

payable *in futuro*, 1297. See tit. *Appropriation.*

Legacies on condition, 1258 *et seq.* See tit. *Conditional Legacies.*

to executors, whether they can take without accepting the office, 1281 *et seq.*

by way of annuity “for his trouble,” 1286.

of a “handsome gratuity” void for uncertainty, 1287.

Cumulative legacies, 1289 *et seq.* See tit. *Cumulative Legacies.*

Satisfaction of debts, &c. by legacies, 1296 *et seq.* See tit. *Satisfaction.*

Release of debts, &c. by legacies, 1303.

legacy by a creditor to his debtor, 1303.

Ademption of, 1320 *et seq.* See tit. *Ademption.*

Revocation of,

under a false impression of fact, 172–176.

Abatement of, 1359 *et seq.* See tit. *Abatement.*

Assent to, by executor, 1372 *et seq.* See tit. *Assent.*

Payment of, 1340 *et seq.* See tit. *Payment of Legacies.*

Purchase of, by executor, from legatee, 1843 note (g).

Interest upon, 1423 *et seq.* See tit. *Interest.*

Refunding of, 1450. See tit. *Refunding of Legacies.*

Stamp duties on, 1550 *et seq.* See tit. *Stamps.*

For life, remainder over, 1390 *et seq.* See tit. *Tenant for Life.*

Recovery of. See tit. *Remedies.*

Assignment by executor of his reversionary legacy, 2054.

the assignee takes it subject to the equities which attached to the executor, 2054.

assignment of legacy before grant of administration, 1421 note (h).

no action at law lies for, 1931 *et seq.*

except in consideration of forbearance, 1778, 1779.

or for a specific legacy after assent, 1933.

or where executor ceases to hold the legacy as such, 1933, 1934.

no suits for, to be entertained in probate court, stat. 20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 23, 2063.

not exceeding 50*l.* recoverable in county court, 1935.

action of contract lies for, in many American States without express promise, 1931 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

bill in equity lies for under equitable circumstances, 1931 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

action lies against devisee for legacy when it is charged on the estate devised, 1931 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

against tertenant, 1931 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

remedy for in equity, 1931 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

## LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES,

bequest to, 1127 *et seq.*

LEGATEE. See tit. *Legacy*.

effect of refusal of, to take under the will, 1051 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

whether can refuse legacy to injury of his creditors, 1051 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

for charitable purpose, once accepted cannot be renounced, 1051 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

may be the writer of the will, 111 *et seq.*, 351.

but a knowledge of the contents by the testator must be proved, 112 *et seq.*, 351.

legatee attorney, 111 *et seq.*

cannot dispute a will pronounced against, in a suit by next of kin against executor, 338, 339 note (f).

nominee of legatees,

when to be admitted executor, 245.

who is capable of being, 1051, 1052.

corporations, devises to, good when, 1052 note (b).

foreign corporations, 1052 note (b).

infants and *femes covert*s, 1058 note (r).

state or nation, in New York, 1052 note (b).

persons disabled by statute, 1052.

bankrupt, 1052.

alien, 1052.

subscribing witness, 1052, 1053.

to will afterwards republished by codicil duly attested, 1053 note (o).

to a will giving legacy to a class of which one is an attesting witness, 1053 note (o).

the wife or husband of, 1053 and note (n).

wife of testator, 1053.

substituted for legatee dying before the legacy become vested, 114, 115, 1139, 1140 *et seq.*, 1207 *et seq.*, 1211 note (c).

mode of description of, 1089 *et seq.*

who entitled under that of,

"children," 1089, 1097.

bequest to "A. and his children," 1093.

unmarried children, 1276.

"younger children," 1094 *et seq.*

when a younger child considered eldest and excluded, 1094.

when an eldest considered a younger child and included, 1096.

"posthumous child," 1097.

"natural child," 1099-1102.

"grandchildren," 1097, 1102, 1103.

"wife," 1103.

"nephews and nieces," 1104.

"cousins," 1104.

LEGATEE — *continued*.

mode of description of — *continued*.

who entitled under that of — *continued*.

"heirs," 1107.

"A. and the heirs of his body," 1107.

"A. for life, and then to the heirs of his body," 1107.

"heirs of A." or, "my heirs," 1108, 1109.

"my heirs or next of kin," 1110.

"issue," 1110 *et seq.* See tit. *Issue*.

"A. and his issue," 1110.

"A. and B. and the issue of their bodies," 1110.

"A. and his issue as tenants in common," 1111.

"descendants," 1113.

"eldest male lineal descendants," 1113.

"male descendants," 1113.

"A. or his heirs, or his children, or his descendants," 1114.

"relations by lineal descent," 1114.

"relations," 1116.

"poor relations," 1116.

"near relations," 1116.

"nearest relations," 1118.

"relations" of a particular name, 1118, 1119.

"next of kin," 1119.

who are "kin," 1119 *et seq.*

bequest to, after a previous bequest for life, 1123 *et seq.*

"nearest of kin in the male line," 1122.

"wife," 1103, 1155 and notes (e) and (g).

"family," 1125.

younger branches of, 1127.

"executors and administrators" or "legal representatives" or

"personal representatives," 1127-1148.

"servants," 1148.

"inhabitants," 1150.

"government," 1151.

direction that a fund shall be disposed of "in a due course of administration," 1124.

mistakes in names or descriptions of legatees, 1151, 1156.

rectified by context, 1151.

by parol evidence, 1153, 1153 note (x<sup>1</sup>)

legacy to one in particular character, 1155.

same property given to two different legatees by different clauses in same will, 1463 note (p<sup>1</sup>).

required to give security against contingent debts, 1344 and note (k).

SPECIFIC. See tit. *Specific Legacy*.

RESIDUARY,

his right to administration *cum testamento annexo*, 462 *et seq.*

cannot call on the general legatees to abate, 1359.

**LEGATEE** — *continued.***RESIDUARY** — *continued.*

case where the assets have become insufficient by a *devastavit*, 1362.

what terms of bequest are sufficient to constitute, 1454–1457.

his rights generally, 1457 *et seq.*

for life, 1390–1396. See tit. *Tenant for Life*.

cases where legatees are regarded as purchasers, 1364 *et seq.*

refusing to accept, legacy duty deducted, 1571.

of legacy charged on realty may have a decree for administration of the personal estate without service on the rest, 2011.

suit in county court by, where estate does not exceed 500*l.*, 2064.

**LETTER,**

may operate as a will, 104.

so of instructions sent in a letter, 109 note (z).

injunction to restrain publication of testator's letters, 1900.

**LETTERS AD COLLIGENDUM,**

granted while executor considers whether he will act or not, 275.

granted *ex officio*, 445.

**LEVY,**

of execution against executor or administrator, on real estate of deceased, 650 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

**LIABILITY,**

of executors and administrators, 1655 *et seq.* See tits. *Executor, Action, Remedy*.

**LIBEL,**

action for, does not at common law survive for executor, 790.

nor against him, 1728.

**LICENSE,**

to sell real estate for payment of debts of deceased, 650 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>). See tit. *Real Estate*.

what rights and interests may be sold under, 650 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

to sell lands fraudulently conveyed by deceased, or fraudulently held by another person for him, or to which he had right of entry, or to a conveyance, mode of proceeding, 650 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

disposition to be made of surplus of proceeds of sale of lands fraudulently conveyed, 650 note (*d*<sup>1</sup>).

will not be granted to sell real estate for payment of debts not enforceable at law, 1803 note (*g*).

**LIEN,**

of an attorney or solicitor, does not extend to his client's will, 313.

priority of, in administration of assets, 991.

executor is not deprived of, by payment into court, 2048.

**LIFE ESTATE,**

in chattels, security, 1396. See tit. *Tenant for Life*.

**LIGHTS,**

action for obstructing, does not at common law survive to executor, 790.

nor against him, 1728.

**LIGHTHOUSE,**

lease of tolls of, held a chattel real, 811 note (*f*).

profits arising from tolls of, real estate, 1630.

**LIMITATION,**

executor's title to chattels real by, 696 *et seq*

*choses in action* by, 885.

of chattels and heirlooms, 725-727.

over, of personal estate, supported by the courts, 1107 note (*w*).

over, void after a fee, 1267.

- of the time for administration, 452 and note (*t*).

**LIMITATIONS,**

of time for taking out original administration, 820 note (*x*).

of time for contesting probate of will, 334 and note (*i*).

statute of,

does not run against executor or administrator's claim against the estate, 1039 note (*s*).

runs in favor of an executor who acts though he has not proved the will, 265 note (*r*), 2025.

executor not bound to plead it, 1802 and note (*p*), 1803 note (*q*).

exceptions, 1803 note (*q*), 1804 note (*x*).

the residuary legatee may set up the statute in chambers, 1803, 1804.

so may the *cestui que trustent* of devised estates against a creditor who has obtained an administration order, 1804.

after decree executor cannot give an acknowledgment to take debt out of, 1804 note (*v*).

special statute of limitation of suits against executors and administrators, 1946 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>), 2023 note (*t*).

bound to plead special statute of limitations of actions against them in their official capacity, 1803 note (*q*).

effect of a failure to plead it, 1803 note (*q*).

effect of promise by executor to avoid operation of general statute of limitations, 1803 note (*q*), 1947, 1948.

as to liability of sureties on bond of executor for amount of judgment recovered against him on claims barred by special statute limiting time of bringing actions against him, 1803 note (*q*).

no disability prevents running of this special limitation, 1946 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>).

of time for presenting claim for payment, 1946 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>).

new assets after special period of limitation has expired, 1946 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>).

of time before which an action cannot be brought, 1946 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>), 2012 note (*e*).

exceptions, 1946 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>).

cases in which special statute will not run, 1951 note (*p*).

retainer of debt barred by, 1049.

*devastavit* by neglect in executor enabling debtor to plead the statute, 1804.

LIMITATIONS—*continued.*

statute of—*continued.*

how executor should declare, if he means to rely on a promise to himself to bar the statute, 1881.

*Plea of the statute,*

in actions *by* executors and administrators, 1879.

if the promises are laid *to the testator*, the time must be computed from the period when the action accrued, 1879.

but where the cause of action accrues after his death, the statute, in an action by an administrator, runs only from the grant of the letters, 1879, 1880 and notes.

statute barred by payment of interest on a note to an administrator who has taken letters in a wrong diocese, 1882.

if the promises are laid *to the testator*, and the defendant pleads the statute, the plaintiff cannot reply a promise *to himself* within six years, 1881.

nor can he give it in evidence, 1880, 1881.

nor an acknowledgment within six years, 1880, 1881.

whether an executor can save the statute by taking out process within a year after testator's death, the six years not being elapsed before, 1882 and note (*k*).

so where the testator brings an action and dies before judgment, the six years being then expired, 1883.

within what time the executor must bring the new action, 1883, 1884.

form of replying the new action, 1884, 1885.

if the executor brings an action and dies, and the six years run, his executor may bring a new action within a year, 1885.

the executor cannot have a writ by journeys accounts, 1882, 1883.

in actions *against* executors and administrators, 1946–1953.

what promise or acknowledgment will bar the statute, 1947 *et seq.*, 1947 note (*a*<sup>1</sup>).

if the plaintiff means to rely on a promise, &c. by executor, there should be a count on a promise by him, 1946.

non-assumpsit may be pleaded to a bill so declared on, 1947.

the mere existence of a debt owing by testator is not evidence of a promise to pay by executor, 1947.

there must be an express promise, 1948.

by *all* the executors, 1948.

9 Geo. 4, c. 14 (Lord Tenterden's act), 1948.

19 & 20 Vict. c. 97, s. 14 (mercantile law amendment act), 1949.

payment of interest by one of two makers of a note binds the executor of the other, 1949.

*secus*, if made after testator's death, 1950.

payment by the executor will not bind the survivor, 1950.

LIMITATIONS — *continued.**Plea of the statute — continued.*in actions *against* executors and administrators — *continued.*

case where testator remained beyond seas till his death, 1950, 1951.

case where after cause of action accrued, debtor died and by reason of litigation as to right to probate, no executor was appointed till after six years, 1951, 1952.

the plaintiff may have a writ by journeys accounts against the executor, and reply it to a plea of the statute, 1952, but see note (r).

in suits in equity *by* executors and administrators, 1913.

the statute does not run against a decree, 1913.

an infant bound by executor's neglect, 1913.

in suits in equity *against* executors and administrators, 2024–2031.

in all *legal* demands the statute operates, 2024.

courts of equity as much bound by, as courts of law, 2023 note (t).

act in analogy to statute even when its terms apply only to actions at law, 2023 note (t).

limitations specially imposed by statutes in favor of executors and administrators strictly enforced, both at law and in equity, 2023 note (t).

whether can be avoided by fraud, 2023 note (t).

if time once begun to run against a debt in debtor's lifetime, it does not cease during period between his death and time of appointment of personal representative, 2025.

when the statute begins to run, in cases of fraud or mistake, 2025.

the statute runs in favor of an executor *de son tort*, 2025.

whether a bill filed by a creditor for himself and others will bar the statute as to all, 2026 *et seq.*

the statute does not run against a trust, 2028, 2031 note (f).

executors and administrators are trustees within this rule, 2028 note (n).

a trust for payment of debts on *real* estate will bar the statute, 2028, 2029.

*secus*, on personal, 2028.

unless the debt was barred before testator's death, 2028.

how far notice in a newspaper bars the statute, 2027 and note (e).

case where testator scheduled his debts, 2027.

a legacy was not barred by the statute Jac. 1, 2029.

but a presumption of payment of legacies might arise, 2029.

so of the payment of debts, 2029 note (t).

but it may be rebutted by circumstances, 2029.

the statute will not run against debts scheduled under the insolvent acts, 2028.



LIMITATIONS — *continued.*

*Plea of the statute — continued.*

in suits in equity *against* executors and administrators — *continued.*

a legacy was not barred by the statute Jac. 1. — *continued.*

survivor of two partners cannot set up the statute against a demand on the assets of the deceased partner, 2028.

*quare*, whether the representatives of a deceased partner can set up the statute whilst the surviving partner continues liable, and his estate would be liable to contribution, 2028 note (k).

when the court will enjoin executor from setting up the statute, 2028.

statute 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 27, ss. 40, 42, 2029, 2030 and note (a).

construction of, 2029 note (y), 2030, 2031 and note (f).

LIMITED ADMINISTRATION. See tit. *Administration.*

grant of, 479 *et seq.*

citation of parties entitled to general grant necessary before, 525, 526.

## LIMITED EXECUTOR,

appointment of, 249 *et seq.*

## "LINEN,"

what passes by bequest of, 1199.

## LIS PENDENS,

a good return to *mandamus* to compel probate, 387.

## LITERARY PROPERTY,

executor's interest in, 817.

## LIVING PERSON,

administration granted upon the estate of, under belief that he was dead, void, 499 note (a), 563.

## LOCKE KING'S ACT, 1702.

construction of, 1702 note (e).

## LONG ON,

city of,

restraint of freeman's bequeathing personalty, till stat. 2 Geo. 1, c. 18, 3, 4.

freeman of, may devise lands within the city in mortmain, 1069.

distribution under the custom of, 1527 *et seq.* See tit. *Distributions.*

custom of, that simple contract debts shall be paid as specialties, 1025, 1026.

LORD'S DAY. See tit. *Sunday.*

## LOSS,

of property without negligence of executor, 1804 and note (y).

by neglect to sell at proper time, 1816 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

by sale of property at discount when not necessary, 1804 note (z).

by insolvency, 1806 note (g).

by delay to sue, 1806 notes (g) and (h).

by negligence, though possession never taken, 1806 note (g).<sup>o</sup>

by leaving money in hands of purchaser under order of sale from the court, 1808 note (s).

LOSS—*continued*.

- by mismanagement, or fraud, in sale of the assets, 1816 note (*a*<sup>1</sup>).
- by misconduct of agent or attorney, properly employed, 1817 note (*e*), 1820 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>).
- by deposit of money, 1820 note (*t*).

LOST WILL,

- probate of, 159, 378.
- declarations of testator, secondary evidence of contents of, 360 note (*m*), 380 note (*y*<sup>2</sup>).
- to show lost will has or has not been revoked, 379 note (*p*<sup>2</sup>).
- presumed to be revoked, when, 379 note (*p*<sup>2</sup>).
- circumstantial evidence to show legal existence of at death of testator, 379 note (*r*).

LUCID INTERVAL. See *tit. Insanity, Lunatic*.

LUNATIC. See *tit. Insanity, Weakness*.

- who is to be considered as such, 19 *et seq.*
- onus* of proof on party asserting the lunacy, 20.
- will made by, 19.
- does not become valid if testator recovers his mind, 19.
- during lucid interval, 21–28.
- transfer, in such case, of *onus probandi*, 21.
- what is sufficient proof of lucid interval, 22–28.
- act of making rational will, 22–28, 37.
- distinction between delirium and insanity, 28.
- temporary delirium, caused by disease or otherwise, 23 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).
- a will may be established, though all the attesting witnesses depose to testator's insanity, 37, 101, 347.
- a will is not revoked by subsequent insanity, 20 note (*r*), 191.
- incapacity of, to be executor, 238.
- grant of administration to another, when executor becomes lunatic, 238.
- incapacity to be administrator, 449.
- revocation of grant to administrator if he becomes *non compos*, 579.
- conversion of property by committee of, 667.
- sale or mortgage of property of, under 16 & 17 Vict. c. 70, ss. 116, 119, 668.
- compulsory sale of land of, under lands clauses act, 668.
- transfer of stock standing in name of, when trustee or executor, 13 & 14 Vict. c. 60, 2055.

M.

MAINTENANCE. See *tit. Infant*.

- when executor may allow, out of legacy to an infant, 1408.
- by 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s. 26, trustees may apply income of property of infants for their maintenance, 1408.
- when the court will order it, 1410–1413.

MANDAMUS,

- to compel probate, 387 and note (*m*).
- what is and is not a good return to, 388.

**MANDAMUS** — *continued.*

to compel grant of administration, 435.

to enforce allowance of an appeal, 435 note (i).

does not lie to compel grant to residuary legatee, 465.

**MANURE,**

when it passes to executor, 731.

in barnyard or spread on land, 731 note (c).

drawn out and in heaps on land, 731 note (c).

made in a livery stable, 731 note (c). See tit. *Fixtures*.

**MARINE.** See tit. *Seaman*.**MARKSMAN,**

signature of will by, 75 and note (q<sup>d</sup>).

proof of execution of will by, 19, 101.

attestation of will by, 93.

when witnesses, who have attested by marks, cannot be produced, they must be proved to be the marks of the witnesses, 352 note (g).

**MARRIAGE.** See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

bequests with conditions in restraint of, 1275 *et seq.* See tit. *Conditional Legacies*.

action for breach of promise of, will not survive to executor, 800.

**MARRIAGE SETTLEMENTS.** See tits. *Husband and Wife*, *Voluntary Settlement*.

may operate as a will, 104.

**MARRIED WOMAN.** See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

"MARRIED WOMAN'S PROPERTY ACT," 748 note (c).

**MARSHALLING ASSETS,**

doctrine of, 1713 *et seq.* See tit. *Assets*.

**MATERIALS,**

found by executor as such, he may declare for, 879, 1873.

**"MEDALS,"**

what passes by the bequest of, 1199.

**MEDICAL BOOKS,**

use that may be made of them, and practice as to reading to court or jury, 360 note (n).

**MEMORY,**

failure of, of attesting witnesses, as to circumstances of attestation, not to defeat will, 103 note (w), 347 note (g).

**MERGER,**

when the estate of an executor shall merge in his estate *proprio jure*, 640 *et seq.*

possession by administrator and equitable title in him in his private capacity, do not defeat the legal estate, 642 note (l).

when a mortgage merges, 688 and note (l). See, also, *Swabey v. Swabey*, 15 Sim. 106, 615.

mortgage does not merge where owner of the legal and of the equitable titles has an interest to keep them distinct, 689 note (l).

of life estate in ownership in principal, 1396.

**MESNE PROFITS,**

action for,

cannot be maintained against an executor, 1731.

he is liable for use and occupation up to the day of the demise in ejectment, 1731.

but not after, 1731.

relief in equity, 1732.

**MINOR.** See *tit. Infant.*

distinction between, and infant, 481.

**MISNOMER, or MISDESCRIPTION,**

of legatee or devisee, how aided, 1153 note (*x*<sup>1</sup>).

parol evidence admitted to ascertain who was intended, 1153 note (*x*<sup>1</sup>).

corporations misnamed or defectively described, 1153 note (*x*<sup>1</sup>).

**MISTAKE,**

will cancelled by, 147 *et seq.*

will revoked under mistaken notion of facts, 172 *et seq.*

will made under erroneous belief on the part of the testator, 172, 173 note (*p*).

mistakes in wills, how to be corrected, 1086.

insertion or omission by, in a will, when it may be corrected in the court of probate, 357, 358.

not ground for setting aside will, when, 357 note (*a*), 1153 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).

devise inadvertently omitted cannot be supplied by parol, 1153 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).

nor can parol evidence be received to an alleged mistake not apparent on face of will, 1153 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).

nor to show that testator meant to give a different estate from that expressed in will, 1153 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).

in the names or descriptions of legatees, 1151 *et seq.*, 1153 note (*u*).

in the description of a legacy, 1199 *et seq.*, 1153 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).

in decree of probate court, or in its proceedings, how corrected, 571 and note (*a*<sup>4</sup>).

omission of legacy by mistake of scrivener does not avoid will, 1153 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>).

**MONEY,**

when considered as land in equity, 658 *et seq.*

legacy of, when deemed specific, 1170.

not property considered of consumable nature, 1396 note (*e*).

what passes by description of, in a will, 1188, 1189 note (*g*), 1190 note (*l*).

"sums of money," 1190 note (*p*).

"securities for money, 1192.

of testator in hands of executor,

when the property is altered, 646 *et seq.*

when it passes to assignees of bankrupt executor, 687.

cannot be taken in execution *de bonis testatoris*, 646.

kind of money to be received or paid by executor, 1811 note (*f*), 1841 note (*k*).

**MONEY HAD AND RECEIVED,**

action for,

lies *for* executor, if goods are taken from testator, and sold, 786.

executor may sue, as such, for money had and received to his use as executor, 879, 1873.

when a count can be employed against the executor for money had and received *by the testator*, 1941.

lies *against* executor, if goods taken by testator have been sold, 1780.

executor cannot be sued, as executor, for money had and received by him, 1774, 1940.

**MONEY LENT,**

executor may sue for, as executor, 878, 879, 1873.

he cannot be sued for, as executor, 1774.

**MONEY PAID,**

action for,

executor may sue, as such, for money paid by him as executor, 879, 1873.

he may be sued, as such, for money paid to his use, 1773.

**MONOMANIA.** See tit. *Partial Insanity*.

**MONUMENTS.** See tit. *Gravestones*.

when heirlooms, 723.

**MORAL INSANITY.**

not sufficient of itself to invalidate will, 20 note (s).

**MORTGAGE,**

considered part of the personal estate, 687 and note (z), 1656 note (b<sup>1</sup>).  
in what case heir entitled, 687.

executor or administrator may assign, 687 note (z), 939 note (k).

may take possession of mortgaged premises to foreclose, 687 note (z).

may sell the premises under power of sale in the mortgage, 687 note (z).

may receive pay of mortgage and discharge it, 687 note (z).

if mortgaged premises have been taken into possession by the mortgagee, his executor or administrator will hold them in trust as if part of the personal estate, 687 note (z).

to be assigned and distributed as personal estate, 687 note (z).

one of two executors may assign a mortgage belonging to the estate of the testator, 687 note (z).

when it passes by bequest of securities for money, 1192, 1193 and note (k).

when it merges, 688. See, also, *Swabey v. Swabey*, 15 Sim. 106, 615.

does not merge where the owner of the legal and equitable titles has an interest in keeping those titles distinct, 689 note (l).

title of executor of mortgagor, in case of a mortgage, with power of sale, 689.

effect of husband mortgaging his wife's chattels real, 691.

**MORTGAGE** — *continued*.

- of the assets by executor, valid, 934, 936 note (x).
- executor may be authorized to mortgage real estate of deceased for payment of debts, &c. in Massachusetts, 934 note (l).
- debt due by,
  - its rank as to payment by executor, 1020, 1021.
- legal estate of mortgaged lands will not pass by the words "securities for money," 1192.
- equity of redemption,
  - whether legal or equitable assets, 1681-1683.
- right of heir or devisee to be exonerated by the executor, 1693 *et seq.*
- executor cannot invest money in, after a decree to account, 1808.
- how it may be a subject of *donatio mortis causa*, 777.
- whether mortgagee may prove for his whole debt, under a decree in a creditor's suit, 1715.
- marshalling assets with respect to, 1718.
- duty of executor or administrator to redeem in certain cases, 1798 note (x).

**MORTMAIN**,

- statute of, 1055 *et seq.*
- none in Connecticut, 1059 note (k<sup>1</sup>).
- as to Pennsylvania and Connecticut, 1059 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

**MOTHER**,

- right of, to grant of administration, 423.
- to distributive share, 1506, 1508.
  - when brothers and sisters shall share with, 1508.
  - representatives of brothers and sisters, 1508.
- when she shall take the whole intestate's effects, 1508.
- advancement from, to a child, shall not be brought into hotchpot, 1499.

**MOURNING.** See *tit. Funeral*.

- legacies for, not preferred to other general legacies, 1366.
- for widow and family of testator, cannot be claimed against the estate of the executor, 971 note (q).
- has been allowed, although estate insolvent, 971 note (q).

**MUTUAL WILLS**,

- unknown to the testamentary law of this country, 10.
- whether enforceable in equity as a compact, 10 note (d), 124 *et seq.*
- whether ever irrevocable in equity, 10 note (d), 124.
- of two sisters, will of one not revoked by the marriage of the other, 191.
- how treated in American States, 10 notes (b) and (d).
- joint will of husband and wife of his estates, 10 note (d).
  - under power, 10 note (d).
- effect of will executed by husband and wife devising reciprocally to each other, 10 note (d).
- held valid in several cases, and admitted to probate, 10 note (d).
  - on decease of either of the parties, 10 note (d).
- agreement to make mutual wills, 10 note (d), 124 note (c<sup>2</sup>).

## N.

NATURAL CHILDREN. See tit. *Bastard*.

NAVIGATION SHARES,

whether real or personal property, 811.

"NEAREST OF KIN IN THE MALE LINE,"

who take under description of, 1122.

NECKLACES,

what passes by bequest of, 1198.

NE EXEAT REGNO,

writ of,

what it is, 2022.

may be had concurrently with bail at law, 2023.

affidavit to obtain, 2023.

will not go against a *feme covert* executrix or administratrix, 2023, 2024.

NE UNQUES EXECUTOR,

plea of,

when necessary, 1943.

a plea in bar, 1943.

a plea that defendant is administrator and not executor, and the converse, is in abatement, 1943.

evidence on issue joined on, 1994.

does not deny the cause of action, 1945.

by several executors, 1945.

a plea by one defendant, that the other is not executor, is bad, 1945.

NEGLIGENCE,

action for, when it survives for executor, 796 and note (*a*<sup>2</sup>), 797 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

See tit. *Action*.

when against him, 1722.

NEGROES,

executor's property in, 706.

NEPHEWS AND NIECES,

who can take under description of, in a will, 1104 and notes (*k*<sup>1</sup>) and (*i*) and (*m*).

their degree as next of kin, 1510.

they shall share, in distribution with uncles and aunts, 1510.

when they shall share with their grandmother, 1507.

when they shall take *per capita*, and when *per stirpes*, 1512, 1513.

NEXT OF KIN,

their right to call on the executor to prove the will in solemn form, 334.

when liable to costs, 338, 339.

when will has been pronounced against in suit between next of kin and executor, it cannot be set up again by a legatee, 338.

their right to administration, 418 *et seq.* See tit. *Administration*.

cannot be compelled to take out administration, although they may have administered, 438.

**NEXT OF KIN** — *continued.*

who are next of kin, 418.

as between husband and wife, neither can ordinarily be said to be next of kin to the other, 410 note (e).

definition of consanguinity, 419.

lineal, 419.

collateral, 420, 421.

mode of calculating degrees, 420-424.

rights of ascendants, 423.

of the father, 423.

of the mother, 423.

grandfather preferred to uncle, 423.

children preferred to parents, 424.

brother preferred to grandfather, 424.

their rights under the statute of distributions, 1505 *et seq.* See tit. *Distribution*.

they are entitled to the residue undisposed of, notwithstanding a contrary declaration in the will, 1482.

their rights under the customs of London and York, 1527 *et seq.*

description of, in a will, 1119 *et seq.*

who are kin, 1119, 1120 note (m).

in the male line, 1122.

means next of kin at the death of him whose next of kin are spoken of, 1122, 1123, 1124 note (d).

bequests to, after a previous bequest for life, 1123, 1124 note (d).

bequest to, in classes, how distributed, 1120 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

may have a decree for administration of personal estate without service on the rest, 2011.

suit in county court by, where estate does not exceed 500*l.*, 2064.

**"NEXT SURVIVING SON,"**

may be construed "next younger surviving son," 1086.

**NOLLE PROSEQUI,**

as to one of several defendants sued as executors, 1936.

**NOMINE PŒNÆ,**

when it goes to the heir, 820.

**NON COMPOTES MENTIS,**

meaning of term, 38 note (s<sup>1</sup>).

what persons included, 38, 41.

valid will defaced by testator while *non compos*, 42.

**NOTICE.** See tit. *Indorser*.

payment of inferior debts by executor, without notice of superior, 1028 *et seq.*  
suffering judgment on inferior debt, 1029.

what is sufficient notice, 1030-1032.

one executor not affected by notice to co-executor, 1821.

payment of legacy without notice of debts, 1348 *et seq.*

of proceedings to obtain probate of will, 335 note (o).

of appointment as administrator, how proved, 448 note (y<sup>2</sup>).

of dishonor of note, indorser being dead, 2003 notes (l) and (m).



**NOVITER PREVENTA,**

allegation of, when admissible, 585.

**"NOW,"**

word in wills, 221 note (d), 1089 note (n).

effect of, in determining intention not to dispose of after acquired property, 221 note (d).

**NUNC PRO TUNC,**

entry of judgment at common law, 893.

under Reg. Gen. H. T. 1853, 894, 895.

**NUNCUPATIVE WILL,**

definition of, 116.

derivation of, 116 note (a).

invalid if made on or after January 1st, 1838, 116.

except of soldiers and seamen, 116, 117 and note (c<sup>1</sup>).

construction of this exception, 116-118 and notes.

term "soldier" embraces every grade, 117 note (h).

soldier on furlough, or in camp, not entitled to make, 117 note (d).

when soldier considered in *expeditione*, 117 note (g).

as to mariners, when considered *at sea*, 117, 118 and notes (l) and (n).

restrictions on, by the statute of frauds, 119-121.

the statute construed strictly, 117 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 121.

strictness as to *rogatio testium*, 117 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 121.

the statute does not apply to lapsed legacies, 122.

or a void legacy, 122.

or property not disposed of by the previous will, 123.

whether the statute applies to a nuncupative will made abroad, 123.

such will valid by the laws  
in state where made,  
may be admitted to probate in Massachusetts,  
though not executed according to its laws, 117  
note (c<sup>1</sup>).

strictness as to the *factum*, independent of the statute of frauds, 121 and note (t), 122 note (x).

may be made by interrogatories, 122.

a disposition not valid as, may be supported sometimes as a trust, 123.

valid in many of the American States, 117 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

amount that may be bequeathed by, defined in some of the states, 117 note (c<sup>2</sup>).

must be made in last sickness, 120 and note (p<sup>2</sup>).

when extremity of illness prevents a written will, 120 note (p<sup>2</sup>).

meaning of "last sickness," 120 note (p<sup>2</sup>).

of no force, if testator recover, 120 note (p<sup>2</sup>).

not favored in the law, 121 note (r).

NURSE. See tit. *Last Sickness*.

NURSERY GROUNDS,

trees, &c. planted in, for sale, removable by executors, 711 and note (z).

## O.

OATH,

executor's oath, 325.

how administered, when executor infirm, 326.

on renunciation, 282.

administrator's oath,

affidavit of value of effects, 453, 454.

of the truth of an inventory and account, 2060.

OBLITERATION. See tit. *Alterations*.

of will, 143 *et seq.*, 131 note (s). See tit. *Will*.

careful interlineation is not, under stat. of Pennsylvania, 144 note (f<sup>1</sup>).

OFFICE,

persons not qualifying for, disabled to be executors, 238.

grant of, for years, assets in hands of executor of grantee, 1671.

"OFFICIOUS" WILL,

what is, 38.

OLD AGE,

will made by persons, who by old age have lost their reason, 38.

of itself, no ground of incapacity, 39 and note (x).

effect of, when connected with other proof of incapacity, 39 and notes (x) and (y).

extreme, may raise doubts of capacity, and excite vigilance of court, 39 note (x).

mental imbecility arising from, may destroy testamentary power, 39 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

OMISSION,

of legacy by mistake does not avoid will, 1153 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

ONLY CHILD,

when considered "a younger child," 1096.

rights of, under the statute of distributions, 1497.

under the customs, 1538, 1540.

OPENING AND CLOSE,

practice as to, in trial of issue on due execution of will, 20 note (x<sup>1</sup>), 21 (x<sup>2</sup>) at the end.

OPINIONS. See tits. *Evidence*, *Experts*.

on questions of sanity, only experts and subscribing witnesses to will may give mere naked opinions, in Massachusetts and some other states, 346 note (d<sup>2</sup>).

in some states, other witnesses, who have had sufficient opportunity for observation and knowledge, may give opinions, 346 note (d<sup>2</sup>).

to what extent facts involved in opinions may be given in evidence, 346 note (d<sup>2</sup>).

opinions and impressions obtained from personal knowledge, 346 note (d<sup>2</sup>).

OPINIONS — *continued.*

of physicians, not technically experts, 346 note (*d*<sup>2</sup>). See tit. *Physicians*.  
whether witness, not technically expert, may give opinion, question for judge at trial, 346 note (*d*<sup>2</sup>).

## OPTIONS,

of archbishops, 673. See tit. *Archbishop*.

## “OR,”

the word construed “and,” and *vice versâ*, 242 note (*t*), 1085, 1086 and note (*n*).

## ORDINARY,

his power of granting probate and administration before stat. 20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, 289, 409.

## ORIGINAL WILL,

how far it may be examined to determine construction, from the appearances on it, in matters of punctuation or otherwise, 568, 569 and note (*u*<sup>1</sup>). See 331, 332.

to correct inaccuracies in the probate, 331, 332, 566, 567.

## ORNAMENTS,

“personal ornaments,” what passes by bequest of, 1198.

## ORPHANS,

court of, in London,

its power and duty, 1547, 1548.

bond to chamberlain shall pass to his successor, 842.

orphan's portion, 1537 *et seq.* See tit. *Distributions*.

orphan of the chamber of London, 855.

## OUTLAW,

incapable of making a will as long as outlawry exists, 64.

even outlaw in a personal action, as far as a will of goods, 65.

may sue as executor, 235 and note (*o*), 1912.

incapable of being administrator, 449.

## OVERSEER,

office of, 243, 244.

distinguished from that of executor, 243, 244, 258 note (*l*).

of the poor, money due from, in what order to be paid by his executor, 994.

## OYER,

of letters testamentary abolished by C. L. P. Act, 1875.

## OYSTERS,

artificially planted in a bed, 705 note (*o*).

## P.

## PAID,

the word construed payable, 1086.

## PAPERS,

general rule as to production of, 2048.

unattested, referred to by will or codicil duly executed, become part of it, when, 97 and note (*b*).

disposition by, to a public charity, 100 note (*b*).

PAPERS — *continued*.

will cannot create power of disposition by a future unattested paper, 99, 100.

reference to, in duly attested testamentary instrument, parol evidence in such case, 100.

the instrument referred to must be clearly and distinctly identified, 107 note (x).

reference in will to two memorandums and only one found, 100.

principles on which papers not purporting to be testamentary may be admitted to probate, 105, 106 and note (p).

PAPIST. See tit. *Roman Catholic*.

PARAPHERNALIA. See tit. *Allowances*.

what are so considered, 763–766.

the wife cannot dispose of them during her husband's life, 766.

*secus*, of jewels given to her separate use by third persons, 769.

the husband may sell or give them away, 766.

he cannot devise them, 766.

they are subject to the husband's debts, 766.

but not to his legacies, 767.

widow's right to marshal the assets against the heir, 767.

against a devisee, 767, 768.

right of heir or devisee to be exonerated out of, 1695.

if the husband pawn, the executor must redeem them for the widow, 768.

widow may be barred of them by marriage articles, 769.

by election to take them as legatee, 769.

jewels, &c. given to the separate use of the wife by third persons, 769.

by the husband before marriage, 769.

## PARENTS,

right of, to administration of their children's effects, 423.

to a distributive share, 1506 *et seq.*

person "*in loco parentis*," definition of, 1338.

PAROL EVIDENCE. See tit. *Evidence*.

to identify instrument referred to in a duly executed testamentary paper, 100.

to show what is comprehended in a description referring to an extrinsic fact, 1153 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

cannot be admitted to contradict, vary, add to, or subtract from, contents of will, 1153 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

even though adherence to rule defeats intended disposition of will, 1153 notes (i<sup>1</sup>) and (x<sup>1</sup>).

letters and oral declarations, to add to will, rejected, 1153 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

evidence of person who drew will rejected, 1153 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

devise inadvertently omitted cannot be supplied by, 1153 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

PAROL EVIDENCE — *continued.*

nor is it admissible to prove that testator meant a different estate from that expressed, 1153 note (1).

nor to correct an alleged mistake of testator not apparent on will, 1153 note (1).

of actual intention, not admissible to control construction, 1153 note (1).

admissible to counteract fraud, as well as to rebut charges of fraud, 1153 note (1).

to rebut a resulting trust, 1153 note (1).

to repel presumption against double portions, 1153 note (1).

to show that terms may have an interpretation differing from their primary acceptation, 1153 note (1).

to apply the words of the will to the testator's property, 1153 note (1).

where all the facts of the description are found to be true, and the property exactly fits the description, 1153 note (1).

where there is property in regard to which none of the facts of description are true, 1153 note (1).

where there is property as to which some of the facts of description are true and others not, 1153 note (1).

doctrine of rejection of false demonstration, 1153 note (1).

meaning of the rule "*falsa demonstratio non nocet*," 1153 note (1), 1200 note (o).

sufficient if testator has provided means of ascertaining intended object of his bounty, 1153 note (1).

admissible to show state of facts under which will was made, 1153 note (u).

to place interpreter of will as nearly as possible in situation of testator, 1153 note (u), 1199 note (1).

where no subject or object answers description strictly construed, it may be shown that there is one which answers the description taken in a popular and less appropriate sense, 1153 note (u).

as to proof of the amount or condition of testator's property, 1153 note (u).

to show the situation and circumstances of all of the parties, 1153 note (u).

of the testator and his family, 1153 note (u).

PAROL EVIDENCE — *continued.*

to show facts known to testator which might have influenced him, 1153 note (u).

to show testator's mode of treating certain property, the subject of the disposition, 1153 note (u).

but where intention is clear, neither the testator's situation nor that of his property or family is to be considered, 1153 note (u).

never admitted to show that testator actually intended the devise to have the effect given to it, but to supply facts from which court may infer such to be the intent, 1153 note (u), 1199 note (l).

caution to be observed, 1153 note (u).

the construction must be only on and consistent with the words of the will after all admissible evidence has been introduced, 1153 note (u).

estate can pass only by the will, 1154 note (y).

when difficulty in construing will arises from introduction of parol evidence, other parol evidence admissible to remove it, 1153 note (x<sup>1</sup>), 1154 note (y).

when will applies definitely to each of two persons, parol evidence admitted to show which, 1154 note (y).

where description does not designate any person with precision, 1154 note (y).

person may be identified by parol proof, though both Christian and surname mistaken, 1154 note (y).

where there is no person to answer the description and the extrinsic evidence fails to enable the court to determine who was intended, will fails, 1154 note (y).

admissible to translate foreign language, or decipher terms or characters not understood by the court, 1155 note (d).

to show use of ordinary words by a certain class of persons to which testator belonged, or in a certain locality where he dwelt, in a peculiar sense, 1155 note (d).

but not to show that testator used words in a sense peculiar to himself, &c. 1155 note (d).

maxim respecting *patent* and *latent* ambiguities, 1199 note (l).

not a universal guide, 1199 note (l).

criticism on the maxim, 1199 note (l).

PAROL EVIDENCE — *continued*.

- declarations of testator or other direct evidence of intent, 1199 note (l).
- generally inadmissible, 1199 note (l).
- extrinsic evidence admissible when part of description applies to each of several persons, and part to neither, 1199 note (l).
- where there is an object answering description in will, extrinsic evidence not admitted in favor of one imperfectly described, 1199 note (l).
- when no person actually answers to any part of the description in the will, 1199 note (l).
- same principles apply to the admissibility of extrinsic proof in cases of error in the description of the thing as of the person, 1202 note (y).

## PARS RATIONABILIS,

doctrine of, 2.

## PART OF WILL,

- established, and part not, on the ground of incapacity, 42.
- undue influence or fraud, 377 and note (f<sup>1</sup>).
- will may be admitted to probate, though part of its bequests invalid, 45 note (l).
- or void for uncertainty, 377 note (c<sup>1</sup>).
- of lost, mutilated, or partially destroyed, will, when whole cannot be found, 377 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 381 note (a<sup>1</sup>).

PARTIAL SANITY. See tit. *Monomania*.

- description and meaning of, 29, 30 *et seq.*, 31 note (a), 33 note (c).
- not affecting the general faculties and not influencing the testamentary disposition, 33 note (c).
- of which the will is the direct result, 33 and note (c).

## PARTIES,

- to actions *by* executors,
  - if there are several executors they must all join, 1867 and notes (o) and (r).
  - though some are within seventeen years, 1867.
  - or have not proved, 1867.
    - but not if they have renounced, stat. 20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 79, 286, 1868.
  - if one alone sell the assets, he may sue alone for the price, 1868.
    - when he *must* sue alone, 1868, 1869.
  - so if goods be taken out of the possession of one of several, 1868.
  - the objection must be made by a plea in abatement, 1868.
    - the plea need not state that the others have administered, 1868.
  - if two have the legal interest in a contract, the executor of one cannot be joined as a party with the survivor, 1865.

**PARTIES — continued.**to actions *by* executors — *continued.*

- if both are dead, the executor of the survivor must sue alone, 1865.
- so as to remedies in form *ex delicto*, 1866.

to suits in equity *by* executors,

- if there are several they must all sue, 1911.
- but where one has alone proved, he may sue alone, 1911.
- the executor of a deceased joint mortgagee must be a party to a foreclosure bill, 1900.
- a bill is not demurrable on the ground that the legatees and executors are joined as plaintiffs, 1912.
- executor may obtain a decree against a single legatee, &c. for administration of the estate or execution of the trusts, stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 42, rule 6, 1912.

to actions *against* executors,

- if there are several, those only who have administered need be sued, 1936.
- in an action against a wife executrix, the husband must be joined, 1936.
- if an executor be joined with others in an action, it is error, 1936.
- but in tort, the defect may be cured by a *nolle prosequi*, 1936.
- if one of two executors dies, the action must be against the survivor alone, 1936.

to suits in equity *against* executors, &c. 2014 *et seq.*

- if there are several they must be all sued, 2014.
- at least such as have acted, 2014.
- a co-executor may be introduced without putting off the cause, 2014 note (a).
- a co-executor outlawed and not to be found, 2014.
- if a bill is filed against a wife executrix, her husband must be a party, 2015.
- when an executor *durante minoritate* must be joined, 2015.
- in what cases the personal representative must be made a party, 2015.
- estate cannot be administered in the absence of a personal representative, 2017.
- court may in certain cases appoint representatives, 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 44, 2017, 2018.
- who may be made co-defendant with executors, 2020-2022.

**PARTNERS,**

## survivorship as to their joint property, 651.

- duty of surviving partner, to wind up partnership account with representative of deceased partner, 652 note (o<sup>1</sup>), 1740 note (r).

how far he is entitled to compensation for services in winding up, 652 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

generally not entitled, 652 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

otherwise, when with assent of administrator of deceased partner he performs extra work, 652 note (o<sup>1</sup>).



**PARTNERS — continued.**

survivorship as to their joint property — *continued.*

as to the mode of taking partnership accounts of bankers, between surviving partner and estate of deceased partner, 653 note (*p*).

• joint choses in action, 843.

the *remedy* survives, 843, 1865.

right to an accounting survives to personal representatives, 843 note (*c*).

but they cannot collect partnership debts, nor have custody of books, 843 note (*c*).

liability of executor of, in equity, 1741 *et seq.*, 2021.

liability of executor of deceased partner continuing his share in the trade, 1791 *et seq.*, 1792 note (*s*).

how estate of testator may be subjected to liability for debts contracted after his death by partnership of which he has been a member, 1792 note (*s*).

administrator exonerated from liability when he continues trade with consent of all parties interested, 1795 note (*d*).

after what lapse of time partnership accounts will be decreed, 2025 note (*i*), 2021.

when the statute of limitations can be set up as a bar against the assets of a deceased partner in respect of a partnership demand, 2028 and note *k*).

partnership dissolved by death, 1658 note (*p*).

rights of executor of one of several partners, 652.

executors cannot be compelled to continue, 1792.

ademption of specific legacy of partnership share, 1326. See tit. *Goodwill*.

**PARTY WALL,**

liability to contribute to, 1677, 1761.

**PATENT,**

executor's interest in, 817.

**PAWN,**

goods of testator in, executor may redeem, 886 and note (*d*).

duty of executor or administrator as to redeeming goods of deceased, pledged or pawned for less than their value, 1798 note (*x*).

at what time, &c. 886.

when redeemed, they are assets, 1660, 1661.

whether legal or equitable assets, 1681, 1682.

goods specifically bequeathed are not adeemed by pawning, 1326.

the executor must redeem them for the legatee, 1763.

if the husband pawn the wife's paraphernalia, the executor must redeem them for her, 768.

**PAYABLE,**

the word construed to refer to death or marriage of legatee, 1273.

read "vested," 1086.

## PAYMENT OF LEGACIES,

all debts must be paid before, 1340.

the executor has no power of preference in respect of his own legacy, 1359.

at what time legacies are to be paid, 1387 *et seq.*

generally at the end of a year after testator's death, 1387.

practice in an administration suit, 1388.

legacy to *A.* at twenty-one, and if he dies before, to *B.*, 1388.

where estate devised to a minor after a life estate, on condition of his paying legacies to his sisters, when legacies payable, 1399 note (*n*).

legacy subject to divesting contingency, 1389.

whether legatee must give security on receiving, 1389 note (*z*<sup>1</sup>).

a legacy of a defined fund vested absolutely is payable at twenty-one notwithstanding payment is further postponed by the will, 1398.

annuity, 1389 and note (*c*).

distinction between annuity and legacy for life with respect to payment of interest, 1390, 1391.

bequest of personalty for life, remainder over, 1390-1396.

a person taking the residue for life is entitled to the proceeds from the death of testator, 1391.

where testator has directed the residue to be invested in specified securities, 1391.

where the gift is of things *quæ ipso usu consumuntur*, 1396 and note (*c*<sup>1</sup>).

duty of executor to convert the property into three per cents., 1392 and note (*s*), 1394 and notes (*t*<sup>1</sup>) and (*u*).

consequence of neglecting to do so, 1313.

inventory by legatee for life, 1396.

legacy to an infant, 1397.

stat. 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, s. 32, 1407, 1408.

when legatee dies under twenty-one, 1397.

legacies in stock,

at what time to be invested, 1398.

appropriation of legacies payable in *futuro*, 1399 *et seq.* See tit. *Appropriation*.

when directed to be made out of income, duty of executor as to, 1402 note (*e*).

to whom legacies are to be paid, 1404 *et seq.*, 1404 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>), 1405 note (*p*).

legacy to *A.* and his family, 1404.

infant legatee, 1405-1412.

general rule that payment to the father, or any other person, is bad, 1405 and note (*p*).

to a trustee, 1406.

stat. 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, 1407, 1408.

PAYMENT OF LEGACIES — *continued.*

to whom legacies are to be paid — *continued.*

infant legatee — *continued.*

costs of suit to secure legacy, 1408.

when executor may allow maintenance out of the legacy, *stat* 23 & 24 Vict. c. 145, s. 26, 1409.

confirmation by infant legatee after attaining majority, 1409.

when the court will order it, 1410–1413.

*feme covert* legatee, 1413–1420.

payment must be to the husband, 1413.

how and when the husband may be compelled to make provision out of it for her, 1413–1420.

for children of the marriage, 1417.

amount of provision in the discretion of the court, 1414 note (d).

when given to her separate use, 1420.

where the legatee is abroad, 1420.

when presumed to be dead, 1420.

payment into the bank under 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, s. 32, 1420.

where legatee is a bankrupt, 1421.

where legatee is a convict, 1421.

illusory appointments, 1422.

valid in equity as well as law (11 Geo. 4 and 1 W. 4, c. 46), 1422.

where there is a gift to a class according to appointment, and no appointment is made, 1423.

presumption of, 2029.

interest upon legacies, 1423 *et seq.* See *tit. Interest.*

in what currency legacies are to be paid, 1433 *et seq.*, 1433 note (y<sup>1</sup>).

payment of specific legacies, 1436 *et seq.*

right of selection in a legatee of a certain number of a stock of articles, 1440.

legacy of an unopened packet, 1440.

when legatee entitled to the increase, 1436–1439.

when bequest is confined to date of the will, 1436.

by *stat.* 1 Vict. c. 26, s. 24, will to take effect as if executed immediately before the death, 1436.

when decreed by court of chancery without first taking an account of the testator's estate, 2049 *et seq.*

purchase of legacy by executor from legatee at a reduced price, void, 1843, note (q).

## PAYMENT OF MONEY INTO COURT,

in equity,

when executor may be compelled to make, 2043–2047.

who may move for, 2047.

executor is not thereby deprived of his lien, or retainer, 1041, 2048.

**PAYMENT OF TRUST MONEY INTO COURT,**

by trustees under stat. 10 & 11 Vict. c. 96, or 12 & 13 Vict. c. 74, 1901-1904.

provisions of the stat. 1904.

orders for carrying them into effect, 1901 note (*k*).

remedy for executor who has paid too large a sum into court, 1903.

**PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY EXECUTOR, 988. See tit. *Debt*.**

order of the application of the several funds liable to the payment of debts, 1693 note (*h*).

personal estate exonerates real, even where debt secured by mortgage, 1694 note (*r*).

so where lands held under a contract of sale are devised, and the unpaid purchase-money is to be paid out of the personal estate, 1694 note (*r*).

**PEARLS,**

what passes by bequest of, 1198.

**PECULIAR,**

definition of, 289.

several sorts of, 289 note (*f*).

power of peculiar ordinary, under the old law, to grant probate, 289 *et seq.*

**PECUNIARY LEGACY,**

meaning of, 1160 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

usually regarded as general, 1161 note (*o*).

under some circumstances regarded as specific, 1160.

**PENCIL,**

will written in, valid, 111.

rule as to alterations in, 111.

**PENDENTE LITE,**

administration, 495 *et seq.* See tit. *Administration*.

**PER CAPITA,**

in what cases parties take by, and in what *per stirpes*, under the statute of distributions, 1512, 1513 and note (*q*).

rule as to legatees, 1513 note (*q*).

**PERPETUITY,**

gift to a class, void as, 1250.

**PERSONAL ESTATE. See tit. *Estate*.**

will of. See tit. *Will*.

the primary fund for the payment of debts of every description, 1693 *seq.* See tit. *Exoneration*.

so for the payment of legacies, 1705 *et seq.*

all, belonging to deceased, vests in executor or administrator, 650 and note (*d*<sup>2</sup>).

for what purpose, 650 note (*d*<sup>2</sup>).

administration necessary to pass the title in it to distributees, 650 note (*d*<sup>2</sup>).

PER STIRPES. See tit. *Per Capita*.

"PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES,"

who entitled under bequest to, 1227 *et seq.*

PHYSICIANS. See tits. *Opinions, Experts*.

court do not distinguish between different schools of, or different members of the same school, as to their opinions on questions of medical science, 346 note (*d*<sup>3</sup>).

PIGEONS,

when they pass to executor, 705.

PIN MONEY,

widow's right to savings from, 760.

when liable to husband's debt, 761.

wife may bequeath them, 61.

in arrear, when and for how long recoverable by widow, 761, 762.

in arrear, irrecoverable by executor of wife, 846.

PLANTATION,

what passes by bequest of, 1199.

property in the plantations, when assets in the hands of the executor, 1564-1566.

probate here does not extend to, 364.

PLATE,

will pass by a bequest of "household goods," 1181, 1182.

of "household furniture," 1185.

*secus*, if in the possession of the testator in the way of his trade, 1185.

when not liable to legacy duty, 1564.

PLEAS,

in action by executors and administrators, 1876.

set-off, 1876 *et seq.* See tit. *Set-off*.

statute of limitations, 1879 *et seq.* See tit. *Limitations*.

in actions against executors and administrators, 1941 *et seq.*

*non detinet*, 1941.

*non est factum suum*, 1941.

*non assumpsit*, 1941.

bankruptcy, 1942.

pleas by several executors, 1942.

*ne unques executor*, 1943.

by several executors, 1945.

evidence on issue joined, 1943.

plea by administrator whose letters are revoked, 1945.

statute of limitations, 1946-1953. See tit. *Limitations*.

set-off, 1953. See tit. *Set-off*.

tender, 1953.

*plene administravit*, 1953 *et seq.* See tit. *Plene Administravit*.

*plene administravit præter*, 1956 *et seq.*

replication to, 1961 *et seq.*

evidence for plaintiff on issue joined, 1966 *et seq.*

evidence for executor that assets have been exhausted, 1972 *et seq.*

**PLEAS** — *continued.*

in actions *against* executors and administrators — *continued.*

*plene administravit* — *continued.*

retainer, 1960.

form of plea, 1960.

upon proceedings after judgment obtained against testator, 1991, 1992.

in suits in equity *by* executors and administrators,

denial that plaintiff is executor, 1912.

outlawry, 1912, 1918.

statute of limitations, 1913.

death of co-executor, 1910.

set-off, 1913.

in suits in equity *against* executors and administrators,

statute of limitations, 2024 *et seq.* See tit. *Limitations.*

set-off, 2032. See tit. *Set-off.*

**PLEDGE.** See tit. *Pawn.*

**PLENE ADMINISTRAVIT,**

plea of,

when necessary, 1953 and note (*d*)

consequence of not pleading, 1954.

form of, 1955 and note (*g*).

necessary averments, 1954.

by executor of executor, 1956.

*plene administravit prater*, 1956.

when necessary, 1956.

form of, 1956.

how unsatisfied judgment to be pleaded, 1957 *et seq.*

how bonds to be pleaded, 1959.

replication to, 1961 *et seq.*

that a judgment pleaded is fraudulent, 1961, 1962.

executor must traverse the fraud in his rejoinder, 1962.

evidence under this issue, 1962.

where the judgments or debts upon penalties, 1962, 1963.

that the executor had assets since the commencement of suit,

1982, 1983 and note (*a*).

question whether the plaintiff, by avoiding any one of several judgments pleaded, is entitled to a general judgment, 1963 *et seq.*

evidence for plaintiff on issue joined on a plea of *plene administravit*, 1966 and note (*q*).

the *onus* is on plaintiff, 1966.

he cannot show assets received since the commencement of the suit, 1967.

he may show a *devastavit*, 1967.

executor or administrator in Massachusetts may show that assets have been exhausted in paying preferred debts and claims, 1972 note (*z*).

**PLENE ADMINISTRAVIT**—*continued.*

plea of — *continued.*

evidence for plaintiff on issue joined on a plea of *plene administravit*—  
*continued.*

defence by administrator of an insolvent estate against claim of  
creditor only by showing account settled in probate court, or  
by proceedings in insolvency, 1972 note (z).

inventory exhibited by defendant, 1967–1970.

probate stamp, 1970.

admission of assets, 1971.

what amounts to, 1972, 2050, 2051.

when he must show the amount of damages,

evidence for the executor that the assets have been exhausted, 1972.

by payment of debt of equal or superior degree, 1972.

of inferior degree, without notice, 1973.

by expenses of the funeral, 1973.

of taking out administration, 1973.

of retainer, 1960, 1973.

of collecting debts, 1973.

outstanding superior debts must be pleaded, 1973.

executor cannot show payment since commencement of suit,  
1973.

such payments must be pleaded, 1974.

judgment on, 1975, 1976.

for what amount to be entered, 1976, 1977.

when one only of several executors is found to have assets, 1978.

of assets in *futuro*, 1981 *et seq.*

**POOR'S RATE,**

liability of executor as to, 1766.

**PORITION,**

satisfaction of, by legacy, 1300–1302.

presumption against double, how repelled, 1333 and notes (p) and (s).

by parol evidence, 1335.

ademption of legacy given as, by father, 1332 *et seq.*

by testator *in loco parentis*, 1337.

advancements to be deducted, 1333 note (s).

vesting of, 1223 *et seq.*, 1248.

**PORTRAITS,**

what passes by bequest of, 1199

**POSSESSION,**

acquired by administrator, as such, and equitable title in his private capacity, do not defeat legal estate, 642 note (l).

**POSTHUMOUS CHILD,**

marriage and birth of a posthumous child a revocation of the will of father,  
194.

description of, in a will, what will answer, 1092, 1097.

entitled to a distributive share of effects of intestate under the statute, 1511  
under the customs, 1537.

## POST-NUPTIAL SETTLEMENT,

when valid, 753 *et seq.*

## POST-OFFICE,

debts to for letters, priority given to, by 9 Anne, c. 13, s. 30, 994.

## POWER,

of executor. See *tit. Executor.*

will of married woman, made under, 56, 383.

must be pleaded in allegation of executor, 56 note (I), 384.

must be proved in the court of probate, 384.

will purporting to execute a power which does not exist, may operate as a mere will, 105.

will executing a power revoked by subsequent will not attested as directed by the power, 176.

probate cannot be granted of the revoked will to raise the question whether it was a good execution of the power, 177.

effect of general clause, revoking all former wills, upon a will made in execution of a power, 178.

to be admitted to probate, though not conformable to the law of the place of domicile, 373.

to be admitted to probate without any decision as to whether authorized by power, 56, 58.

when probate of necessary, 391. See, also, 56.

how to be granted, 56.

grant of probate of married woman's will under, must specify the power, 59.

executors of the will of a married woman made under, take nothing *jure representationis*, 59.

probate duty on executing general power by will, 623 *et seq.*

given to executors,

whether they may exercise it after renouncing, 286.

when they take merely a power to sell, and when a fee in trust, 654.

of sale, cannot be exercised by attorney, 944, 951 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

to sell land,

given to two, one cannot delegate to the other, 951 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

when one of several renounces, 951.

where all qualify and one afterwards resigns, 951 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

surviving executor, 951 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

exercise of power to appoint a new trustee given to a man and his executors when he is dead, and one of them renounces, 953.

by surviving executors, 953.

by a single survivor, 954, 955.

equitable relief, 956.

by administrator with will annexed, 461 notes (c) and (d), 925 note (a).

exercise of, by executor of executor, 959.

lapse of legacy given under, by death of legatee before appointor, 1212-1215.

executor of object of, cannot be an appointee, 889.



**POWER — continued.**

illusory appointments under, 1422.

(11 Geo. 4 and 1 W. 4, c. 46), 1422.

beneficial interest under, when assets, 1685, 1686.

of attorney,

liability of executor for acts done under, 1786, 1787.

**PRACTICE,**

of court of probate, 320 *et seq.* See tit. *Court of Probate.*

as to examination of attesting witnesses, in regard to sanity, 20 note (x<sup>1</sup>), 21 note (x<sup>2</sup>).

as to opening and close, on trial of issue with regard to execution of will, 20 note (x<sup>1</sup>), 21 note (x<sup>2</sup>).

**PREAMBLE OF WILL,**

effect of intention declared in, 1087 note (e).

**PRECATORY WORDS,**

in a will, when they create a trust, 108 note (y).

**PREFERENCE. See tits. Debt, Insolvent.**

by executor, among creditors, 988–991 and notes, 1032 *et seq.*

given to creditor not entitled to it, is a *devastavit*, 989 notes (g<sup>1</sup>) and (h).

testator cannot give preference to one debt over another by bequest to creditor, 990 note (k).

**PRESENCE OF TESTATOR,**

what is, 91–93, 91 note (x<sup>1</sup>), 92 note (f<sup>1</sup>).

**PRESENTATION,**

to a church. See tit. *Church.*

**PRESUMPTION OF SANITY,**

not a legal presumption, 20.

character, efficacy, and extent of, as affecting proof of wills, 20 and notes (x<sup>1</sup>) and (x<sup>2</sup>), 21 note (x<sup>2</sup>).

whether it prevails to make a *prima facie* case, when attesting witnesses cannot be produced, upon proof of their handwriting, or when they fail to remember the transaction, 20 note (x<sup>1</sup>) and 21 note (x<sup>2</sup>).

effect of, when evidence on the issue of sanity evenly balanced, 21 note (x<sup>2</sup>).

**PRETENCED TITLE,**

sale by administrator of, within stat. 32 Hen. 8, 649.

**PRIMA FACIE case,**

when made out on an issue of sanity, 21 note (x<sup>2</sup>).

**PRIMARY FUND,**

personal estate, 1693.

**PRIORITY,**

among general legatees of purchasers over volunteers, 1364.

where legacies are equally bounties, 1364 note (n<sup>1</sup>). See tit. *Abatement.*

**PRISONER,**

in execution,

cannot be discharged without concurrence of executor, 706.

after death of, fresh execution against his goods, 1994.

**PRISONER** — *continued.*

of war,

wills made by 11 Geo. 4, c. 20, s. 49, 396, 397.

how affected by stat. 28 & 29 Vict. c. 72, 397-399.

executor's property in, 706.

**PRIVITY,**

among separate executors, whether appointed in the same or different jurisdictions, 226 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 362 note (u), 1929.

distinction in this respect between executors and administrators, 226 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

none between different ancillary administrations, or between any one ancillary administration and the principal, 362 note (u), 1929 note (b).

between successive executors and administrators, 462 note (c), 494 note (u).

**PROBATE.** See *tit. Will, Court of Probate, Judge, Issue, Evidence.*

what it is, 288.

proceeding *in rem*, 332 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

all parties interested may intervene, 332 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

of wills more than thirty years old, 352 note (g).

must be obtained in the court of probate, 291. See *tit. Court of Probate.*

prescriptive jurisdiction of some lords of manor to grant probate under the old law, 288.

relation of, to testator's death, 293.

*Of what instruments it is necessary,* 388.

mixed will of lands and goods, 389.

or where executors are appointed in a will of lands only, 389.

*secus*, where the will clearly respects lands only, 389.

order of chancellor for delivery of such will out of registry, 390.

where it is doubtful whether all the property is freehold, 391.

of will made in execution of a power, 391.

by *feme covert*, 56. See, also, 384, 391.

of sealed packets directed by testator not to be opened, 392.

not of a deed declaring a trust of a bequest by will, 393, 394.

of will appointing guardians, 393.

of will giving legacies out of real estate, 393.

of will of money directed to be laid out in land, 393.

of part of a will, 42, 377. See *tit. Part of Will.*

of will, though part of the bequests are void, 45 note (f).

of instruments not purporting to be testamentary, 105.

of lost will, 159, 378. See *tit. Lost Will.*

bare nomination of executors entitles the paper to probate, 204, 227, 391.

*What the executor may do before*, 302 *et seq.* See, also, 629, 630.

in most of the American States executors have no power to act until they have been appointed by the probate court and given the required security, 302 note (f).

PROBATE — *continued.**What the executor may do before — continued.*

- these acts stand good, though he die without proving the will, 303.
- if acts done before probate are relied on, a subsequent probate must be shown, 304.
- he cannot maintain actions, 304.
  - except he has had actual possession, 305, 306.
  - nor can his grantee, 307.
  - but he may commence an action, 307.
    - and arrest the defendant, 307.
    - in some cases he may avow or declare, 308.
- he may file a bill, 308.
- he may take out a commission of bankruptcy, 309.
- he may be sued, 309.
- if he die, his executor shall not be executor to the first testator, 310.

*In which of the ecclesiastical courts it was to be obtained under the old law, 288 et seq.*

- generally before the bishop of the diocese where testator dwelt, 289.

peculiars, 289.

the archbishop's prerogative where there were *bona notabilia*, 289, 290 et seq. See tit. *Bona Notabilia*.

prerogative, when necessary, 290 et seq.

*By whom the will must be proved, 311 et seq.*

the executor may be cited to prove, 275, 311.

at the instance of any party having an interest, 311 and notes (a) and (c).

authority of judge to cite for this purpose is incident to his general jurisdiction, 311 note (b).

statute penalty, for neglecting to exhibit a will, merely cumulative, 311 note (b).

the holder of a will may be cited to produce it, 312.

required to produce, within certain time, without citation, under penalty, 312 note (f).

same required of persons named as executors, in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, 312 note (f).

he cannot dispute the jurisdiction, 314.

an attorney has no lien upon the will of his client, 313.

whether devisees and legatees may bind themselves to destroy will, 311 note (b).

*When the will is to be proved, 319 note (s).*

the testator may record and register his will in his lifetime, 318; or deposit it for safety, 319 note (r<sup>1</sup>).

time when executor ought to prove, 318, 319.

(stat. 55 Geo. 3) penalty for administering without proving within six months, 319 and note (u), 972.

PROBATE — *continued.*

*When the will is to be proved — continued.*

time when executor ought to prove — *continued.*

delay how to be accounted for, 320.

after the lapse of three years, 320.

probate not to issue until after seven days from death of the deceased, 320.

will may be proved after twenty years, in Massachusetts, to establish a title to real estate, 320 note (x).

*Manner of obtaining probate.* See, also, tit. *Court of Probate.*

in common form, 325 *et seq.*

this form has been adopted in some of the American States, 325 note (e).

executor's oath, 325.

proctor's oath in *animus constituentis*, 326.

where executor is infirm, or lives at a distance, 326.

of will made before 1st January, 1838, 327.

when perfect on the face of it, 328.

when subscribing witness is also legatee, 328 and note (m<sup>1</sup>).

when imperfect on the face of it, 328.

what affidavit necessary, 329.

on consent of all parties interested, 329.

of the crown, if deceased was illegitimate, 329 note (s).

minors cannot consent, 329.

when it exhibits alterations or obliterations, 329.

deliberative, 329.

of will made on or after 1st January, 1838, 330, 331.

when affidavit necessary, 331.

will exhibiting obliterations and alterations unattested on the face of it, 331.

after citation of persons interested to propound a later paper, 332.

in solemn form or *per testes*, 332 *et seq.* See tit. *Appeal.*

notice, 335 note (o).

solemn form agrees with practice in Massachusetts in all cases, 325 note (d).

and is generally adopted in American States, 333 note (h).

what it is and what is required, 333 note (h).

under the old practice, 333.

under the new practice, 333.

the executor may, after proof in common form, be cited to prove *per testes*, 334 note (i).

within what time, 334 note (i).

by a next of kin who has received a legacy, 335.

legatee who has renounced administration with the will annexed, 337.

PROBATE — *continued.**Manner of obtaining probate — continued.*

in solemn form or *per testes* — *continued.*

next of kin not generally liable to costs, 339 note (h), 340, 341.

nor prior executor, 339.

nor a creditor who has obtained letters of administration, 339.

*secus*, of legatee under a prior will, 339.

when an executor may re-propound, 582, 583.

the executor may himself prove in solemn form, in the first instance, 335.

in such case, a next of kin cannot call for proof, 337.

notice to be given, 335 note (o).

evidence of, 335 note (o).

a creditor cannot dispute the validity of a will, 338.

unless administration has been granted to him, 338.

a legatee cannot set up a will pronounced against after being litigated by next of kin, or by the executor of another will, 338.

heir, &c. must be cited when a will is proved in solemn form, 341, 563 *et seq.*

where the validity of the will is decided on, the decree of the court is to be binding on the persons interested in the real estate, 341.

provided they have been cited, 341.

heir who has been cited not generally liable to costs, 341.

how the order for citation of the heir is to be obtained, 342.

of the wills of seamen and marines, 394 *et seq.* See *tit. Seamen.*

of the wills of foreigners and Englishmen domiciled abroad, 360 *et seq.*

when probate here necessary, 293 note (s), 2019.

according to what law their validity shall be decided, 366–372.

when made under a power of property in this country, 373.

evidence in testamentary causes, 342 *et seq.*

one witness under the ecclesiastical law was sufficient if corroborated by some adminicular proof, 342.

rules of evidence in common law courts to be observed in the court of probate, 344.

competency of witnesses, 344 *et seq.*

of executor, 345.

of witnesses and parties, 345.

witnesses may be examined *viva voce*, 345.

how evidence is to be taken in contentious matters, 345.

court may issue commissions, or give orders for examination of witnesses, 346.

PROBATE — *continued.**Manner of obtaining probate — continued.*

attesting witnesses, 346.

practice as to examining attesting witnesses, with reference to the fact of sanity, 20 note (*x*<sup>1</sup>).

reason and significance of this practice, 20 note (*x*<sup>1</sup>), 21 note (*x*<sup>2</sup>).

not necessary to call both, 347 and note (*f*).

when may be proved on testimony of one witness, in Massachusetts, 325 note (*e*).

proof of handwriting, 348.

17 & 18 Vict. c. 125, s. 27, 348.

where attesting witnesses cannot be produced, 20 note (*x*).

effect of evidence of handwriting, 349.

proof of handwriting alone not sufficient to establish a disputed will, 349. See 20 note (*x*<sup>1</sup>).

on proof of signing, instruction and knowledge of contents presumed, 350, 350 note (*x*).

where legatee writer of his own legacy, 351.

where testator is blind, or cannot read, 351.

where capacity of testator is doubtful, 351.

proof of handwriting of the attesting witness only sometimes sufficient, 20 note (*x*<sup>1</sup>), 352.

seaman's will in favor of his agent, 352.

parol evidence of the testator's intention, 352, 353.

receivable to explain an ambiguity on the *factum*, 352.

what is such an ambiguity, 353.

it must be on the face of the instrument, 355-357.

it must be completely removed by the proposed proof, 354.

what is an ambiguity on the face of the instrument, 354-357.

casual omission, &c. in wills supplied, 355.

cannot be but from instructions in writing, 358.

which must have been signed and attested, if made on or after 1st January, 1838, 359.

verdict in an action brought to try the validity of a will as to realty not admissible in a testamentary cause, 359.

when the declarations of the testator are admissible in evidence, 359, 360. See *tit. Declarations, Evidence*.

practice of the court, 375 *et seq.*

citation of parties interested, by next of kin contesting a will, 583.

when costs decreed out of the estate, 575.

re-propounding a will by executor, 582, 583.

probate may be granted in part, 377 and notes (*c*<sup>1</sup>) and (*f*<sup>1</sup>). See, also, 42 and *tit. Part of Will*.

but the court cannot expunge, 377.

whether the probate should incorporate papers referred to by the will, 97-99.

PROBATE — *continued.*

practice of the court — *continued.*

probate of a lost will, 378.

contents of, how required to be proved in New York,  
380 note (i).

declarations of testator in some cases admitted to  
prove, 360 note (m), 380 note (y<sup>2</sup>).

whether subscribing witnesses must be produced as in  
other cases, 380 note (i).

in some cases held that such will may be established on  
evidence of a single witness, 380 note (i).

though interested, 380 note (y<sup>2</sup>).

probate in a right name to an executor wrongly named in the will,  
378.

probate of a will fraudulently cancelled, or becoming illegible, 379,  
380.

cancelled by testator when *non compos*, 381.

double probate, where there are several executors, 381, 382.

several executors with distinct powers, or for distinct portions of  
time, 382.

probate in case of executor of executor, 383.

probate in case of executor named only in a codicil of both the will  
and codicil, 383.

probate of a will cannot be granted during a contest as to the validity  
of a codicil, 383.

probate of a will of *feme covert*, 383, 384.

form of such probate, 384.

limited probate, 382.

*administratio cæterorum*, 385.

probate, making out, 385.

form of probate, 385, 386.

probate of will in foreign language, 386.

probate of will in fac-simile, 381, 386, 568 *et seq.*

practice where probate is lost, 386.

*mandamus* to compel, 387.

what is a good return to, 387.

*lis pendens*, 387.

insolvency of executor a bad return, 387.

so the issuing of a commission of appraisement, 388.

*Evidence of the grant,*

what is sufficient, 1889.

where there are several executors, 1891.

proof of revocation of, 1890, 1891.

*Effect of,*

settles no question of title, 384 note (y<sup>1</sup>).

establishes due execution of will, 384 note (y<sup>1</sup>).

operates as to the authentication of the executor's title, 293.

PROBATE—*continued.**Effect of—continued.*

has relation to time of testator's death, 293.

personal property vests in executor or administrator with will annexed where no executor is named, from death of testator, 293 note (y).

as to what facts conclusive, 334 note (i), 384 note (y<sup>1</sup>), 549, 1893, *et seq.*

as to a will and codicil being distinct instruments, 551, 1290, 1291.

in what cases a court of equity will interfere, 552.

executorship may be denied in pleading, 560.

decrees conclusive only when within jurisdiction, 594 note (a).

on what parties conclusive, 549 note (d), 550 note (e).

and as to what matters, 550 notes (e) and (g).

presumptions in favor of proceedings, 549 note (d).

proceedings not to be impeached collaterally, 549 note (d), 550 note (g<sup>1</sup>), 550 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

in some states probate equally conclusive as to wills of real and of personal estate, 549 note (d), 564 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

in some states probate only *prima facie* as to wills of real estate, 549 note (d).

grant of administration does not preclude proof of lost or destroyed will, 550 note (g<sup>1</sup>).

cases where it is not conclusive, 561 *et seq.*

not conclusive of death of testator or intestate, 563 and note (c).

how far conclusive as to jurisdiction, 563 and note (c).

decree appointing administrator void for want of jurisdiction, when, 563 note (d).

alterations in the law as to the effect of probate on real estate since the court of probate act, 563 *et seq.*

where will affecting real estate is proved in solemn form, or is contested, the heir and persons interested in the real estate must be cited, 341, 342 note (i), 563, 564.

where will is proved in solemn form, &c. the decree of the court is binding on persons interested in the real estate, 564.

heir in certain cases not to be cited, and where not cited, not to be affected by probate, 565.

probate or office copy to be evidence of will in suits concerning real estate save where the validity of the will is put in issue, 565

costs of proof of will, 566

how far the original will may be referred to, in order to correct inaccuracies in the probate, 566 *et seq.*

translation of foreign will in probate not conclusive, 567.

*Revocation of*, 386, 571 *et seq.*

upon citation, 571 and note (e<sup>2</sup>).



PROBATE — *continued.**Revocation of — continued.*

- upon appeal, 571 *et seq.* See tit. *Appeal.*
- second grant of, without revoking the first, 574.
- what are sufficient grounds for, 575 *et seq.* See tit. *Administration.*
  - want of jurisdiction in court, 575 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>).
  - interest of judge granting, 575 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>)
  - supposed testator or intestate still living, 575 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>), 586 note (*a*), 591 note (*e*<sup>1</sup>).
  - letters irregularly or illegally issued, 575 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>), 577 note (*a*), 578 and note (*c*<sup>1</sup>), 591 note (*e*<sup>1</sup>).
  - termination of limited administration, 575 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>).
  - effect of want of notice, 575 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>).
  - failure to give bonds, 575 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>).
  - statute causes of removal of executor or administrator in Massachusetts, 575 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>).
  - refusal to return inventory, 575 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>). See tit. *Removal.*
  - fraud, error, or mistake, 576 note (*r*). See tit. *Vacating.*
  - discovery of will after letters of administration have been granted, 588 note (*g*).
  - proceedings after revocation for this cause, 588 note (*g*).
  - when estate has been entirely settled, 588 note (*g*).
  - wrong stamp, 603.
  - what not, 581 *et seq.*
- how far a party who has once propounded a will and withdrawn, is barred, 582, 583.
- citation by next of kin, contesting a will, of parties, interested, 583.
- of will of one falsely supposed to be dead, 584.
- prohibition to prevent repeal, 585.
- consequences of, 586 *et seq.*
  - where the grant is void, 586. See tit. *Void.*
  - voidable, 588.
  - not to prejudice actions or suits already commenced, stat. 20 & 21 Vict. c. 77, s. 76, 1910, 1911.
  - payment to executor under void probate is a discharge, 590, 591. *audita querela*, where probate repealed after judgment, 592.
  - recouping in damages for debts paid, &c. in the course of administration, 593.
- of will made under a power, 56, 384, 391.
- where testator domiciled abroad, 373.
- of will of married woman made under a power, &c. 56, 384, 415. See tit. *Husband and Wife.*
  - effect of such probate, 56.
  - may be without husband's consent, 56. .
  - expenses of, priority of payment in administration of the assets, 388.
- STAMPS ON, 595 *et seq.* See tit. *Stamps.*

**PROCESS,**

in an action by executor, &c.

need not state his special character, 1869.

if to answer plaintiff as executor, the action ought not to be in his own right, 1869 note (b).

he may be declared against as executor, though the process describe him generally, 1937.

service on one of two executors in possession is sufficient in an action of ejectment, 1936.

**PROCTOR,**

no suit for his fees could be entertained in the ecclesiastical court, 1906.

when married woman might appoint, 965.

**PRODUCTION OF PAPERS,**

rule as to, respecting executors, 2048, 2049.

**PROFERT,**

of letters testamentary, &c.

unnecessary since the C. L. P. Act, 1875.

**PROFITS,**

executor, administrator, and trustee must account for all, made out of the estate, or in the management thereof, 1841 note (k), 1842 notes (m) and (o).

**PROHIBITION,**

with respect to grant of administration, under the old law, 435 note (e).

to repeal of grant, 585.

office and effect of the writ of, 585 note (z).

**PROMISSORY NOTE.** See tits. *Bill of Exchange, Indorser.*

may operate as a will, 105.

so an indorsement of, 105.

so if made payable to executor, to evade the legacy duty, 105.

made payable at a time certain after death of testator carries interest from date, 1770.

given to testator, assets though he declared he never would enforce it, 1675 note (j).

given by a stranger for the debt of one deceased, 262 note (g).

**PROPERTY,**

what passes under bequest of, 1178.

**PROTECTION ORDER,**

will of *feme covert* of property acquired after, 59, 761.

administration to wife dying after, 411.

estate vested in wife as executrix after, 922, 923.

wife entitled to payment of a legacy bequeathed to her after, 1413 note (b).

**PROTECTOR,**

of a settlement, executor or administrator cannot be, 646.

**PROVISION,**

made for support of widow and children after decease of husband, 763 note (a<sup>1</sup>). See tit. *Allowances.*

## PUBLICATION,

none requisite for a will of personal estate by the old law, 84.

nor under the new statute of wills, 67, 89.

doubtful whether requisite for a will of lands under statute of frauds,  
89 note (q).

what sufficient in American States, 89 note (q).

no particular form required, 89 note (q).

as to the law of New York on this point, 89 note (q).

## PUMP,

whether a fixture, 747.

## PUNCTUATION,

weight to be given to it in construction of will, 569 note (u<sup>1</sup>).

## PURCHASE,

by executor, of assets, bad, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>), 938 and note (h), 1842, 1843.

PURCHASER. See tit. *Sale*.

executor or administrator cannot be, directly or indirectly, at his own sale,  
650 note (d<sup>1</sup>), 938 note (h).

*bonâ fide*, from executor or administrator who has bought the trust estate,  
650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

## Q.

QUANDO ACCIDERINT. See tit. *Judgment*.

## QUARE IMPEDIT,

lies for executor for disturbance in testator's time, 792.

whether testator have a chattel interest in the advowson, or be seised  
in fee, *semble*, 792 note (e).

for disturbance in his own time, 878.

where it lies for husband, who survives his wife, in respect of her advow-  
son, 874.

whether executor may maintain, without showing forth the will, 308  
note (i).

QUEEN. See tit. *King*.

the queen consort may make a will, 63

## R.

## RABBITS,

when they pass to executor, 705.

## RAILWAY DEBENTURES,

interest on, apportionable, 837 note (d).

## RATIONABILI PARTE BONORUM,

writ, *de*, 2.

## READ,

proof of a will made by a person who cannot read, 19, 351.

## REAL ASSETS,

what are, 1687 *et seq.*

for payment of simple contract debts (3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104), 1691 *et seq.*

## REAL ESTATE,

- what interests in, devisable, 6 note (c).
- descendible interests are, 6 note (c).
- rights of entry, 6 note (c).
- contingent reversionary interests, 6 note (c).
- possibility coupled with an interest; power to sell; right to have a sale of real estate set aside; interest of vendee under an agreement to purchase, 6 note (c).
- all real estate to which testator is entitled at time of death, though acquired after date of will, 6 note (d).
- law of several states with regard to the effect of will on after acquired lands, 6 note (d).
- relation executor or administrator bears to real estate of deceased, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>), 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 820 note (o).
- license to sell, for payment of debts, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- sale may be made under license, whether possession of the real estate is in heir, or his alienee, or disseizor, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- so where power given to executor by the will to sell lands to pay debts, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- rights of purchaser, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- set-off to executor or administrator on execution, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- held under foreclosure of mortgage by executor or administrator, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- rights of widow and heir in such cases, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- how distribution to be made in such cases, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- estate held in trust for persons entitled, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- power of disposition by executor or administrator of real estate held on mortgage or taken on execution, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- where right of redeeming has been foreclosed, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).
- of deceased may be taken on execution or judgment against the executor or administrator, in some states, 1983 note (f<sup>1</sup>).
- which goes to the executor, 654 *et seq.*
- executor may be seised of real property as trustee, 654.
- in what cases executor takes fee in trust to sell, or merely a power of disposition, 654.
- where executor has power to sell by implication, 655, 656.
- whether executor qualified under laws of one state may under power in the will sell lands in another state, 654 note (w<sup>1</sup>).
- whether administrator with will annexed may sell land under power given to the executor, 654 note (w<sup>1</sup>).
- in some states he may, and in others not, 654 note (w<sup>1</sup>).
- language which gives executor an interest in the real estate, and that which gives a mere power of sale, 654 and notes (w<sup>2</sup>) and (x) and (y).
- under power to sell, executor may convey in his own name and give only the ordinary bond, 654 note (x).
- power of sale given to several executors may be executed by one if he alone accepts the office, 655 note (y<sup>1</sup>).

**REAL ESTATE — continued.**

where power of sale is given by will and no person to execute it is named, 655 note (a).

rents of, when go to heir, and when to executor or administrator, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 820 note (o).

accruing after decease of intestate go to heir, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

payment of, to administrator is no discharge, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

taken for public use, damages go to heir, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

heir is owner of, until divested, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>). /

rents of, received by administrator at request, or with consent, of the heirs, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 820 note (o).

money received by administrator upon sale of lands by agreement with heirs, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

how administrator accountable for rents of, received by him in New Hampshire, 817 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

in Michigan and some other states executor or administrator may hold the real estate and take the rents during settlement of the estate, 820 note (o).

**REASON,**

given for a bequest does not control construction, 1087, 1088 note (m).

**"RECEIVABLE,"**

construed "received," 1086.

**RECEIVER,**

appointment of, when husband of executrix is not amenable to process, 282 note (c).

or is in necessitous circumstances, 286 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

appointment of, in case of a bankrupt or insolvent executor, 236.

not in the mere case of an executor in *mean* circumstances, 237.

appointment of, to whom assignees of bankrupt executor shall account, 688, 689.

appointment of, *pendente lite* in the probate court, 496, 499.

notwithstanding an administration *pendente lite* might also be obtained, 499.

general principle upon which the court will interfere to appoint, 501, 500 note (v).

what relief the bill for a receiver ought to pray, 501.

costs of the bill for the receiver, 500 note (v).

of real estate, may be appointed by court of probate *pendente lite*, 496.

court may require security from, 496.

payment into court by executor, after appointment of receiver, 2046.

appointment of, in case of improper conduct by executor, 2032 and note (k).

*durante absentia*, 2033 and note (n).

jurisdiction of the court over the representatives of, 2033.

**RECIPROCAL WILLS, 10 note (d).****RECOGNIZANCE,**

what it is, 1006.

**RECOGNIZANCE** — *continued.*

- will survive to wife, 847 note (r).
- liability of executor upon, 1721, 1722.
- its priority in order to payment by executor, 1006.
  - it must be enrolled, 1006.
    - if not enrolled, it ranks as a bond, 1006.
    - enrolment of, by order of court, 1006.
  - for a future or contingent debt, 1009, 1021.
- in the nature of a statute staple, 1008.
- its rank as to payment, 1009.

**RECTOR.** See *tit. Tithes, Apportionment, Dilapidations.*

**REDEMPTION, EQUITY OF,**

- purchase-money of, whether a charge on real or personal assets, 1701, and note (c).
- duty of executor or administrator to redeem property mortgaged or pledged for less than its value, 1798 note (x).

**REFERENCE,**

- in duly executed testamentary instrument to another testamentary instrument, makes a case for the introduction of parol evidence for identification, 100.
- the instrument referred to must be distinctly described and identified, and must be one already written, 107 note (x).
- rule of, power of referee under, not revoked by death of one of the parties to suit referred, 907 note (g).

**REFUNDING,**

- bond, 1344 note (k).
- of legacies,
  - when executor can make a legatee refund, 1450, 1451, 1901.
  - when a creditor can, 1451. See, also, 1357.
  - when one legatee can make another, 1452.
- legatee refunding not charged with interest, 1452.
- no action at law lies to compel, 1901, 1933 note (p).
- of money received by executor,
  - if improperly, he must refund, though he has paid it away to creditors, 1862.
- of money paid to next of kin, where the intestate's estate has been distributed under a decree in an administration suit, 2008.
- by creditors, when estate proves to be insolvent, 1036 note (h), 989 note (g<sup>1</sup>), 1862 note (r<sup>2</sup>), 1909 note (t<sup>2</sup>).

**REFUSAL,**

- of office by executor, 274 *et seq.* See *tit. Renunciation.*

**REGISTRY.** See *tit. Court of Probate.*

- of probate court,
  - deposit of will in, 315.
  - how a will of lands may be procured from, for the purposes of evidence, 389, 390.
  - district registries under control of, 320.

**RELATION,**

- back of title of personal representative, 629 *et seq.* See, too, 302 *et seq.*
- of administrator, 630 *et seq.*
- where deceased had only a special property, 634.

**RELATIONS,**

- who entitled under description of, in a will, 1116 *et seq.*
- "poor relations," 1116.
- "near relations," 1116.
- "nearest relations," 1118.
- "relations" of a particular name, 1118, 1119.
- when *per capita* and when *per stirpes*, 1513 note (q).

**RELEASE,**

- of debts by legacies, 1803.
- by appointing debtor executor, 1310 *et seq.*
- of debts by executor or administrator, effect of, 1799 note (z).

**RELIEF,**

- due from testator to lord of manor, executor may be sued for, 1722.
- due to testator as lord, executor may sue for, 841.
- act for relief of trustees, executors, &c. 10 & 11 Vict. c. 96, and 12 & 13 Vict. c. 74, 1901-1914.

**REMAINDER,**

- estates by, vest in executor, 697.
- lease for life, remainder to executors of lessee, 697 *et seq.*
- suits accruing by, to executors, 885.
- rights of legatee in remainder, as against legatee for life, 1390 *et seq.*, 1673.

**REMEDIES,**

- on probate bonds. See tit. *Bond.*
- for executors and administrators,
  - at law*,
    - instances where the executor has not the remedy, 1864.
    - executor of one of two joint obligees, &c. 1864 and note (d).
    - secus*, where the interest is several, 1865.
    - executor of joint tenant of injured property, 1866.
  - process, 1869. See tit. *Process.*
  - parties, 1867. See tit. *Parties.*
  - declaration, 1870 *et seq.* See tit. *Declaration.*
    - when executor must declare as such, 1870.
    - when naming himself executor is surplusage, 1872.
    - the words "as executor," 1872 note (s).
  - joinder of counts, 1872-1874.
  - profert* unnecessary since common law procedure act, 1875.
  - oyer of letters, &c. abolished, old law, 1875.
  - how defendant is to protect himself if plaintiff executor sues without having proved the will, 1875, 1876.
- pleas, 1876 *et seq.* See tit. *Pleas.*
  - set-off, 1876.
  - statute of limitations, 1879 *et seq.* See tit. *Limitations.*

REMEDIES — *continued.*

for executors and administrators — *continued.*

at law — *continued.*

evidence, 1886 *et seq.* See tit. *Evidence.*

of plaintiff's being executor, 1886 *et seq.*

where necessary, 1887.

what is sufficient proof of, 1889 *et seq.*

of plaintiff's being administrator, 1892.

costs, 1894 *et seq.* See tit. *Costs.*

*audita querela*, 1898.

county court act, 1898.

presentment of bill of exchange by executor, 1898.

by distress, 926 *et seq.*

remedy on judgment obtained by testator, 1897.

in equity,

what suits an executor may have, 1900 *et seq.* See tit. *Bill in Equity.*

form of bill, 1911.

parties, 1911. See tit. *Parties.*

pleas, 1912 *et seq.* See tit. *Pleas.*

denial of title as executor, 1912.

outlawry, 1912.

statute of limitations, 1913.

death of co-executor, 1910.

set-off, 1913.

executor may pay trust moneys or transfer stocks, &c. into the court of chancery, stat. 10 & 11 Vict. c. 96; 12 & 13 Vict. c. 74; trustee relief act, 1901, 1904.

may concur in statement of special case, 13 & 14 Vict. c. 35, s. 1, 1904.

may obtain a decree against legatee or next of kin for administration of the estate, 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 42, rule 6, 1905 and note (*p*).

may apply to the court for an order to take account of debts and liabilities, 13 & 14 Vict. c. 35, 1905.

appropriation of money to answer contingent liabilities, 1906, 1907.

may distribute assets after due notice to creditors and others, stat. 22 & 23 Vict. c. 35, s. 29, 1908.

may apply to judge of chancery for opinion, &c. in management of trust property, 1909.

court may restrain proceedings against executors, 1907.

injunction to restrain proceedings at law, 1913 *et seq.* See tit. *Injunction.*

suit cannot be in *forma pauperis*, 1928.

against executors and administrators,

foreign executors, 1929.



REMEDIES — *continued.*

against executors and administrators — *continued.*

at law,

an action did not formerly lie where testator would have waged his law, 1930.

debt on simple contract, 1930, 1931.

on an award, 1930.

it lies against him on a simple contract with himself, 1930, 1931.

wager of law abolished by 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, s. 13, 1931.

action of debt given, 1931.

no action of account lay at common law, 1931.

no action lies for a legacy, 1931 *et seq.*

unless in consideration of forbearance, 1778.

*secus*, as to a specific legacy, 1933.

where he ceases to hold the legacy as executor, 1934.

under 50l. in county court, 1935.

action lies for legacy in many of the American States, 1931 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

against devisee, for legacy or annuity charged on estate devised, 1931 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).

against tertenant, 1931 note (*k*<sup>1</sup>). See tit. *Legacy*.

parties, 1935. See tit. *Parties*.

process, 1936. See tit. *Process*.

declaration, 1937. See tit. *Declaration*.

venue, 1938. See tit. *Venus*.

joinder of counts, 1938 *et seq.*

pleas, 1941 *et seq.* See tit. *Pleas*.

by several executors, 1942.

*ne unques executor*, 1943.

evidence on issue joined, 1943-1945.

by administrator whose letters are revoked, 1945, 1946.

statute of limitations, 1946 *et seq.*

set-off, 1953.

tender, 1953.

*plene administravit*, 1953.

*plene administravit præter*, 1956.

replication to, 1961 *et seq.*

evidence on issue joined, 1966 *et seq.*

of executor's bankruptcy, 1942.

retainer, 1960.

plea of, by administrator, 1960.

judgment, 1975 *et seq.*

on a plea of *plene administravit*, 1975, 1977.

of assets in *futuro*, 1981.

costs, 1979, 1980. See tit. *Costs*.

on judgment of assets in *futuro*, 1981.

REMEDIES — *continued.*

against executors and administrators — *continued.*

at law — *continued.*

proceedings on judgment against executor, 1984 *et seq.*

by *feri facias*, 1984.

by attachment, 1984 and note (*f*).

by *scire fieri* inquiry, 1984–1987.

by action of debt suggesting a *devastavit*, 1987–1990. See tit. *Devastavit*.

if he dies after execution sued out, 1991.

after judgment and before execution, 1991, 1992.

remedy on judgment against testator, 1991 *et seq.*

by writ of revivor, 1992 *et seq.* See tit. *Revivor*.

remedy against executor of executor, 1999.

court of requests act, 2000.

county courts act, 2001.

foreign attachment, 2001, 2002.

remedy by distress, 2002.

entering judgment on warrant of attorney, 2002.

on *cognovit*, 2002.

on an award made on reference by testator, 2003.

in equity,

what suits may be brought, 2005 note (*b*), 2006 *et seq.* See tit.

*Bill in Equity.*

in Massachusetts and other states, 2006 note (*g*).

for spoliation or suppression of will, 312.

order of revivor, 2013.

bill for discovery and account of assets, 2006, 2007.

bill by single creditor for his debt, 2007.

creditors' bill, 2007 *et seq.*

legatees' bill, 2008.

creditor may obtain an order for the administration of the personal estate, stat. 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 45, 2009, 2010.

and of real estate devised for sale, 2010.

or charged with payment of debts, 2010.

no bill will lie for a debtor to obtain directions of the court as to the disposal of his debt by the executor, 2013.

parties, 2014 *et seq.* See tit. *Parties*.

writ of *ne exeat regno*, 2022–2024.

writ of *ne exeat regno* against a wife executrix, 2023, 2024.

attachment against wife executrix, 2024.

Defence, 2024 *et seq.* See tit. *Pleas*.

statute of limitation, 2024–2031.

set-off, 2032.

appointment of receiver, 2032.

jurisdiction over his executor, 2033 and note (*q*).

costs, 2033 *et seq.* See tit. *Costs*.

**REMEDIES — continued.**

*against executors and administrators — continued.*

*in equity — continued.*

motion for payment into court, 2043-2048.

executor is not therefore deprived of his lien, or retainer, 2048.

production of papers, 2048, 2049.

when there shall be a decree for payment without a decree for an account, 2049.

remedy for a *devastavit*, 2053. See tit. *Devastavit*.

against bankrupt executor, 2054. See tit. *Bankrupt*.

transfer of stock, &c. in the name of lunatic executor, under 13 & 14 Vict. c. 60, 2055-2056.

executor out of the jurisdiction or refusing to transfer, 13 & 14 Vict. c. 60, and 15 & 16 Vict. c. 55, 2056-2057.

*in the probate court,*

compelling executor to account, &c. 2058.

form of inventory and declaration in lieu thereof, 2060.

no suit for a legacy to be entertained by, 2063.

no suit by next of kin for a distribution to be entertained by, 2063.

in North Carolina, 2005 note (b).

in other states, 2006 note (g).

*in the county court.* See tit. *County Court*.

equitable jurisdiction to be exercised in suits by creditors, &c.

where the estate to be administered shall not exceed 500*l.*, 2064.

and in proceeding for a stay of suit at law to recover debt provable under an administration decree, 2064.

power to a vice chancellor to order transfer of suits to the court of chancery, 2065.

powers of county court judge, 2066 *et seq.*

in which of the county courts proceedings shall be taken, 2067.

rules and orders, 2011 note (a).

**REMOTENESS,**

legacy void for, as to one member of a class, void altogether, 1250.

**REMOVAL.** See tits. *Probate, Revocation.*

of executor or administrator,

causes sufficient for, 575 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

failure to give bonds, 575 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

refusal to return inventory, 575 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

known violation of duty, 575 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

squandering the estate, 575 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

misconduct towards co-executor or co-administrator affecting the administration, 575 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

other misconduct, 575 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

course of proceeding upon removal, 575 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

power of removal inherent in the jurisdiction, 576 note (v).

no removal without cause nor without notice, 576 note (v).

effect of, as to acts done previous to removal, 589 note (i<sup>1</sup>).

**REMOVAL — continued.**

duty of executor or administrator, on removal to pay or deliver property to successor, 594 note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).

removed executor or administrator, defendant as such in suit, ceases to be a party as if dead, 594 note (*n*).

no judgment can be rendered against him to affect the estate, 594 note (*n*).

prosecution of suit in which executor or administrator is a party after death or removal, 594 note (*n*).

death or removal after judgment, 594 note (*n*).

court of equity has no power to remove, 2033 note (*m*).

**RENEWAL,**

of lease, neglect of executor as to, 1769.

by executor, shall be assets, 1656.

**RENT,**

when it goes with the reversion to the heir, and when to the executor, 817 *et seq.*

accruing after decease of the intestate, goes to the heir, 817 note (*c*<sup>1</sup>).

payment of it to administrator no discharge to tenant, 817 note (*c*<sup>1</sup>).

though the estate may be insolvent, 817 (*c*<sup>1</sup>).

received by administrator at request of heirs, 817 note (*c*<sup>1</sup>).

mode in which administrator accounts for rents received by him in New Hampshire, 817 note (*c*<sup>1</sup>).

administrator collecting rents and profits of real estate, holds for heirs, not for creditors, 820 note (*o*).

in some states administrator is authorized to take the real estate and rents and hold until estate is settled, 820 note (*o*).

rent-charge granted *pur auter vie* shall go to executor, 841.

arrears of,

in all cases go to executor, 820 and note (*o*).

cases provided for by stat. 32 Hen. 8, 821.

when rent is due, so as to go to executor, 821 *et seq.*

at what hour of the rent-day the rent is due, 822, 823.

apportionment of, to executor of tenant for life, under 11 Geo. 2, 826 *et seq.*, 834 note (*m*).

to what cases the statute applies, 827.

lease by tenant for life under a power, 827.

lease by tenant in tail, 827, 828.

lease by rector or vicar, 828.

lease by tenant for term of years determinable on lives, 829.

lease by tenant *pur auter vie*, 829.

land-tax and quit-rent, 837.

dividends of money to be laid out in land, 838.

extension of 11 Geo. 2, c. 19, by W. 4, c. 22, 829 *et seq.*

construction of the latter statute, 829-834 and notes.

further extension of, by 34 & 35 Vict. c. 35, 839-841.

whether it shall be according to time or value, 838.

RENT — *continued.*arrears of — *continued.*

due to wife's estate,

when they go to husband's executor, 853 *et seq.*

considered as a debt by specialty, 1010 and see note (i).

whether reserved by deed or parol, 1011.

though lease determined, 1011.

due from tenant *pur auter vie* to reversioner, after the life has dropped, not a specialty debt, 1011 note (m).

current half year's rent become due after testator's death, 1011.

## liability of executor for,

arrears in testator's time,

though the land only may be chargeable, and not the person of testator, yet executor is liable, 1722.

he is liable only as executor, and must be sued in that character, 1753.

liability for current half year's rent, 1753 note (x).

incurred after testator's death,

if executor enters,

he may be sued as executor, in the *detinet*, 1753.

or individually, as assignee, in the *debet* or *detinet*, 1753.

pleas in such case, 1755-1757.

effect of assignment, 1758-1759.

if executor does not enter,

he is chargeable in the *detinet*, 1754, 1755.

notwithstanding assignment, 1758.

pleas in such a case, 1759.

by bequest of, the land itself shall pass, 820 note (m).

## RENUNCIATION,

of office by executor,

he may renounce, though he agreed with testator to accept it, 274.

though he has been sworn, 280.

but he cannot assign, 274.

he might be convened by the ordinary, under the old law, to accept or refuse, 274.

but now by the court of probate, 274.

punishment for neglect to appear, 275.

time allowed for deliberation, 275.

letters *ad colligendum* in the interim, 275.

not acting or not appearing to a citation, he is to be treated as if he had renounced, 275 and notes (f) and (i), 286.

so also if cited to take probate of a copy of a will, and not appearing, 275, 276 note (i).

other acts from which renunciation may be inferred, 275 note (i).

may be implied from refusal to act, 275 note (i).

RENUNCIATION — *continued.*

of office by executor — *continued.*

he cannot renounce, if he once administer, 276.

nor after he has taken probate, 280 note (i.)

may resign by statute in some states, by consent of the probate court, 280 note (i).

in North Carolina he may renounce with consent of probate court, after he has proved will but before he has intermeddled with the effects of deceased, 280 note (i).

what amounts to an administration, 278–280.

administration granted to another is valid upon his renunciation, although he has administered, 277.

in such case he may be sued as executor, 277, 278.

if he accept the office, he accepts the trusts annexed to it by the will, 1796.

proving the will generally deemed an acceptance, 276 note (j).

how he may renounce, 281.

the refusal must be by act in the spiritual court, 281.

case where the ordinary was executor, 282.

form of renunciation, 281 note (o), 282.

should be entered and recorded, 281 notes (m) and (o).

so refusal to act of those entitled to administer, before administration is granted to a creditor, 281 note (m).

in some cases held that a valid renunciation may be made by acts *in pais*, 281 note (m).

one appointed by will executor and trustee presumed to decline one office for which he gives no bond, if he gives bond for the other, 282 note (s).

declining to take the oath, 282.

cannot be in part, 282.

case of an executor of an executor, 276, 282.

renunciation will not be received, unless accompanied by the will, 282.

consequences of renouncing, 283 *et seq.*

upon renunciation by executor, or refusal to accept, administration is granted with the will annexed, 283 note (a).

renunciation may be retracted at any time before administration granted, 283 and note (b), 453.

where there is a sole executor, or several who all renounce, 283.

renunciation cannot be retracted after administration granted, 284.

whether person named executor, appointed, and having acted, as administrator, can afterwards take upon himself the office of executor, 283 note (b).

**RENUNCIATION** — *continued.*

of office by executor — *continued.*

consequences of renouncing — *continued.*

where there are several executors, and some renounce and others prove, 284.

upon removal or decease of those proving, those who had renounced may take letters testamentary, if done before administration with the will annexed is granted, 284 note (e), 285 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

the renunciation is not peremptory, 285.

rights of executor renouncing probate to cease, as if he had not been named in the will, 275 note (i), 286.

no person renouncing in one character to take representation in another, 286. But see 286 note (k).

this rule capable of modification by the court, 286 note (k).

when and how it may be retracted, 283-287.

executor renouncing, in order to be a competent witness, 281.

on the death of him who has proved, his executor does not represent the first testator, if any of those who refused be surviving, 256.

when executor renouncing may take a legacy, 1281 *et seq.*

whether executors may afterwards exercise a power, 286, 287 note (m).

executor renouncing may sue his co-executor, 287.

liability of executor who renounces after an act of administration, 1832.

**REPETITION OF LEGACIES,**

doctrine of, 1289 *et seq.* See tit. *Cumulative Legacies.*

**KEPLEVIN.** See tit. *Return.*

lies for executor, if goods are taken from testator, 786. See 791 note (y).  
against him, if goods taken by testator are in his hands, 1598.

avowry by executor,

for rent accrued subsequent to death of testator, must state the quantity of his estate, 818.

for a distress taken after the testator's death, under authority given in his lifetime, 629, 630.

**REPRESENTATION,**

not admitted among collaterals, after intestate's brothers' and sisters' children, 1512.

**REPRESENTATIVES,**

who entitled under bequest to, 1130 *et seq.*, 1139.

**REPUBLICATION,**

of wills, 205 *et seq.* See tit. *Wills.*

**REQUEST,**

language of, in a will, 108 note (y).

**RESIDUARY DEVISEE,**

- right of, in regard to lapsed or void devises, 1459 notes (*v*<sup>1</sup>) and (*x*).
- upon failure of an intervening estate, 1459 note (*x*).
- upon failure of legacies charged on estate, 1459 note (*x*).

**RESIDUARY LEGATEE.** See *tit. Residue.*

- what terms of bequest are sufficient to constitute, 1454 *et seq.*
  - rights of general residuary legatee, 1458-1460.
    - duty of executor to pay to trustee of, 1454 note (*a*<sup>1</sup>).
    - when he is entitled to lapsed legacies, 1458 and note (*r*), 1459 note (*v*<sup>1</sup>).
    - may take a lapsed bequest by substitution, 1458 note (*s*).
    - when he is executor, and has given bond to pay debts and legacies, 647 note (*l*).
  - rights of partial residuary legatee, 1460, 1461.
  - survivor as to residue, in cases of several residuary legatees, 1461.
    - when they are joint tenants, 1462.
    - when tenants in common, 1468, 1464.
    - with words of survivorship, 1465.
    - when given as to a class, 1467 *et seq.*
  - survivorship as to residue in case of several executors entitled thereto, 1461.
  - death of, before the residue ascertained, 1454.
  - cannot call on general legatees to abate, 1359.
  - may have a decree for administration of personal estate without service on the rest, 2010.
    - case where the estate becomes insufficient by *devastavit* of executor, 1362.
  - construction of residuary clause, so as to prevent intestacy, 1229 note (*i*).
- RESIDUE.** See *tit. Residuary Legatee.*
- what words in a will will pass it, 1454 *et seq.* See, also, 1190.
  - meaning of, 1454 note (*c*).
  - bequeathed for life, remainder over, 1390 *et seq.* See *tit. Tenant for Life.*
  - executor's right to, in case there is no residuary legatee, 1474 *et seq.*
    - rule at law, 1474.
    - rule in equity, 1474, 1475.
      - stat. 11 Geo. 4, and 1 W. 4, c. 40, executors to be deemed trustees for next of kin, 1475.
      - cases on the construction of this act, 1476, 1477 notes (*x*) and (*y*).
    - what is sufficient, in cases not within the statute, to bar the executor, 1477 *et seq.*
      - parol evidence, when admissible, 1481.
      - if it is undisposed of, it must be divided amongst the next of kin, notwithstanding a contrary declaration in the will, 1482.
      - executor, *ex officio*, administers the estate which is undisposed of by will, 1474 note (*s*<sup>1</sup>).
    - survivorship as to, where there are several executors, 1467 *et seq.*



**RESIDUE** — *continued.*

payment of, by administrator, 1525.

no suit for distribution of, to be entertained by probate court, 20 & 21  
Vict. c. 77, s. 23, 2062.

**RETAINER,**

by executor, &c. for his own debt, 1039 *et seq.*

origin of this remedy, 1039.

he cannot retain against a creditor of superior degree, 1039.

he may retain out of assets received after a decree to account,  
1040.

his right to retain not lost by payment of money into court, 1040.

but the right is not allowed out of merely equitable assets, 1040.

for what debts he may retain, 1041 *et seq.*

debts due to him as trustee, 1039 note (s), 1041.

as *cestui que trust*, 1041-1045.

jointly with others, 1039 note (s).

by administrator *durante minoritate*, 1045.

by administrator *durante dementia*, 1045.

by a creditor administrator, 1045, 1046.

by executor of executor, 1046.

where first executor dies before probate, 1046 note (b).

by executor of administrator, 1046.

by executor to whom a debt is due jointly with another, 1046, 1047.

by executor *de son tort*, 269, 1047.

by husband of *feme covert* executrix, 1047.

by husband executor of debt due to his wife, 1047.

case where representative of creditor is also of debtor, 1047.

a co-obligor making obligee his executor, 1048.

whether a surety, executor of principal co-obligor, can retain, 1048.

damages on tort cannot be retained, 1049.

executor cannot retain against co-executor, 1049.

out of balance found due from himself and co-executor, 1049.

for debt more than six years old, 1049.

may be either pleaded, or given in evidence under *plene administravit*,  
1050.

mode of determining disputed claims of executor or administrator, in  
Massachusetts, 647 note (h), 1039 note (s).

when determined, no preference over others, 1039 note (s).

limitation does not run against executor or administrator's claim  
against the estate, 1039 note (s).

by executor for expenses of funeral, 1960, 1973.

for costs of taking administration, 1960.

for payment of debts out of his own pocket, 1960, 647 note (k).

for repayment of moneys advanced for the estate, 647 note (k).

by executor for his own legacy, not allowed, 1039 note (s), 1359.

by executor of legacy, for debt due to testator by way of set-off, 1304  
*et seq.*

**RETAINER** — *continued.*

form of plea, 1960.

when executor may set off debt of husband against legacy to wife, 1308.

set off by administrator against husband of next of kin, 1308.

right of, has been abolished or abrogated in some states, 1039 note (s).

**RETURN,**

goods returned on judgment for, against executor or administrator in replevin, not assets, 786 note (g).

**REVIVOR OF SUIT,**

*for an executor or administrator,*  
*at law, .*

where testator dies *before* final judgment, 890.

proceeding in case of death of sole or sole surviving plaintiff, under 15 & 16 Vict. c. 76, 891.

death between verdict and judgment, 891 and note (c).

stat. 17 Car. 2, judgment must be entered as if he was alive, 891.

there must be a revival to get execution, 892.

the statute applies to actions which do not survive to the executor, 893.

but not to cases of nonsuit, 893.

death of party after leave reserved to enter verdict, 893.

judgment *nunc pro tunc*, 893-895.

under the interpleader act, 895.

no relief in equity by writ of *ne exeat regno*, 895.

after interlocutory and before final judgment, 15 & 16 Vict. c. 76, s. 140, 895-897.

this enactment substituted for stat. 8 & 9 W. 3, c. 11, s. 6, 897 note (z).

form of writ of revivor, 898.

judgment thereon, 898.

where testator dies *after* final judgment, 898 *et seq.*

the executor, &c. must revive to get execution, 898.

at common law the mode of reviving a judgment was by writ of *scire facias*, 900.

form of such writ, 900.

but by 15 & 16 Vict. c. 76, s. 129, a writ of revivor or a suggestion is substituted, 900, 901.

husband of *feme covert* executrix must be a party, 898.

revival by administrator *de bonis non*, 899.

after charging defendant in execution, 900.

defendant before obtaining his discharge under 48 Geo. 3, c. 123, must serve the notice on the representatives of the deceased plaintiff, 901.

REVIVOR OF SUIT — *continued.*

*for an executor or administrator — continued.*

*at law — continued.*

a writ of execution issued in judgment creditor's lifetime, may be executed after his death, 901, 902.

where testator being one of several plaintiffs dies pending the suit, C. L. P. Act, s. 136, 902.

after judgment and before execution, 902.

by executor upon judgment for an administrator *durante minority*, 487, note (m).

by administrator *de bonis non* upon judgment for original executor, 900.

*against an executor or administrator,*

*at law,*

where testator dies *before* final judgment, 891 note (c), 1996.

between verdict and judgment, 1996.

after interlocutory and before final judgment, 1996, 1997.

when the action has been brought against two defendants, one of whom has been outlawed, 1996, 1997.

form of writ of revivor, 1997.

final judgment, 1997.

does not rank as a judgment against testator, 998, 1997.

there must be two writs of revivor before execution, 1997.

what the executor may plead, 1997, 1998.

where sole or surviving defendant dies before judgment or default, 1998.

death of parties to writs of error, 1999.

death of a party to an action of ejectment, 1999.

cases where judgment may be signed after testator's death, and execution issue without revivor, 1991, 1992.

where testator dies *after* final judgment, 1991.

where there are several defendants, 1991.

form of writ, 1992.

suggestion on the roll, 1992.

pleas by executor, 1998.

judgment, 1993.

debt suggesting a *devastavit* on, 1993, 1994.

pleas in, 1994.

judgment in, 1994.

upon judgment of assets *in futuro*, 1994, 1995.

form of writ, 1995.

of *scire facias* under the old practice, 1995.

judgment in, when assets found for part, 1995.

not necessary in order to enforce security for costs, 892 note (i).

**REVIVOR OF SUIT** — *continued.*

*for an executor or administrator,  
in equity,*

suit may be continued by an order to revive merely, 890, 1910.

order of May, 1845, No. 63, 890 note (a).

may be continued by co-executors after death of one without  
revivor, 1910.

executors, &c. of plaintiff in a creditor's suit dying after de-  
crees may obtain an order to revive, 1910.

*quære*, if before decrees, 1910 note (b).

suit by administrator may after his death be revived by ad-  
ministrator *de bonis non*, 900 note (p).

so where administrator plaintiff resigns office, suit may  
be revived by his successor, 900 note (p).

*against an executor or administrator,  
in equity,*

suit continued by order of revivor in all cases, 2013.

in case of death of executor, suit to be revived against rep-  
resentative of testator, 2014.

**REVOCABLE,**

wills are, during life of testator, 6 note (a).

**REVOCATION,**

of wills, 124 *et seq.* See tit. *Wills*.

of probate, 157 *et seq.* See tit. *Probate*.

of letters of administration, 571 *et seq.* See tits. *Administration, Probate*.

of share bequeathed to one of several tenants in common, effect of, 1216.

*rogatio testium*, 121.

subsequent insanity does not revoke will, 19 note (r).

effect of revocation of letters on acts done under their authority, 589 note  
(d), 591 note (e).

**ROMAN CATHOLICS,**

their capacity to be executors, 237.

to be administrators, 237, 449.

a bequest for educating persons as, valid under 2 & 3 W. 4, c. 115, 1056.

**ROYAL EXCHANGE,**

general citation on, 441.

**S.**

**SAILORS.** See tit. *Seaman*.

**SALE,**

of real estate for payment of debts, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

executor or administrator cannot purchase at sale made by himself, of the  
estate of deceased, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

such purchase voidable, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

effect of subsequent sale by him to *bond fide* purchaser, 650 note (d<sup>1</sup>).

to whom belongs surplus of money arising from sale of land for particular  
purpose, 664 note (j), 667 note (u), 668 note (z).

**SALE** — *continued*.

executor or administrator cannot purchase assets from himself, 938 note (h).

neither directly nor indirectly, 938 note (h).

such purchase not absolutely void, but voidable only by those interested, 938 note (h).

effect of acquiescence, 938 note (h).

one party may apply to avoid sale though others equally interested do not, 938 note (h).

stranger cannot avoid it, 938 note (h).

profits made by executor or administrator out of his own sale of the estate are part of the estate in his hands, 938 note (h).

**SATISFACTION**,

of debts by legacies, 1296 *et seq.*

general rule, 1296 and note (m), 1297 note (n), 1298 note (p).

exceptions, 1297-1300 and notes.

when presumption counteracted by context, 1299.

when there is a deficiency of assets, &c. 1300 note (k).

by parol evidence, 1302 and note (d).

recital of amount of debt by testator, 1303.

of portions by legacies, 1300-1302.

**SCIRE FACIAS**. See *tit. Revivor*.

for an executor or administrator,

proceedings substituted in lieu of, by common law procedure act,

where testator dies before final judgment, 891.

after final judgment, 891, 898.

by executor upon judgment for an administrator *durante minoritate*, 486, 487.

against an executor or administrator,

proceedings in lieu of, 1981 *et seq.*

where testator dies before final judgment, 902, 1997.

after final judgment, 1991, 1992.

against executor or administrator who does not satisfy execution obtained against him as such, 1983 note (f<sup>2</sup>).

against executor or administrator and heirs or devisees, 1983 note (f).

**SCIRE FIERI INQUIRY**,

nature and origin of, 1984 *et seq.*, 1983 note (f<sup>1</sup>).

**SCOTLAND**,

testator domiciled in,

mode of proving his will here under old law, 362.

by 21 & 22 Vict. c. 56, s. 12, Scotch confirmation produced in probate court and sealed there to have the effect of probate, 363.

and executor has the power of an ordinary English executor, 363 note (b).

native of, domiciled here,

by what law his will was construed under the old law, 369.

under the present law, 374.

**SCOTLAND — *continued.***

- provision of statute of mortmain, as to lands in, 1074.
- Scotch heritable bond descends to heir, 786 note (d).
- heir not put to election as to, 1848.

**SEAL,**

- not necessary to validity of will of personal or real estate, 10 note (x).
- sometimes annexed, 10 note (x).
- effect of tearing seal from will with express design thereby to revoke it, 10 note (x).

**SEAMEN,**

- wills of, 51, 394 *et seq.*
- mode of executing, stat. 11 Geo. 4 and 1 W. 4, 394-397.
- other provisions, stat. 28 & 29 Vict. c. 72, 397-400.
- made on same instrument as power of attorney, void, 51, 52.
- so on different instrument, 52.
- made as security for debt, invalid, 52.
- in favor of creditor may be good, 52.
- mere existence of relation of seaman and agent, will not annul, 52.
- knowledge of contents must be shown, 52, 352.
- exception in statute of wills (1 Vict. c. 26, s. 11), and the statute of frauds as to nuncupative wills, of, 116, 117, 394 *et seq.*
- who are "mariners or seamen" within these exceptions, 118.
- probate of,
  - provisions of stat. 11 Geo. 4 and 1 W. 4, 394 *et seq.*
  - expenses of, 397.
  - when probate unnecessary, 397.
  - when made in favor of agent, 352.
- punishments for frauds, 397.
- personating seamen, his wife, widow, relation, executor, or administrator, 397.
- taking false oath to obtain probate, 397.
- false petition and forging certificates, 397.
- administration to, 454 *et seq.*
- letters how obtained, 454.
- creditor of, not entitled to administration, 457.
- how paid, if no administration granted, 458.

**SECURITIES FOR MONEY,**

- when legacy of, specific, 1168.
- what passes by bequest of, 1192.

**SECURITY,**

- compelling executor to give, 237 and note (x).
- generally required of executor, as a condition of taking letters testamentary, in the American States, as of administrators, 237 note (z).
- in some states security is required of executor only, when necessary for security of the estate, 237 notes (x) and (z).
- mere poverty which existed at testator's death, no cause for requiring, 237 note (z).
- as to removal of executor from the state, 237 note (z).

SECURITY — *continued.*

for "due administration of the estate," what it means, 237 note (z).

additional, when insufficient has been given, 237 note (z). See tit. *Bond*.  
when legatee must give, against contingent debts, 1344 and note (k).

by legatee or next of kin when payment in whole or part of legacy or distributive share within two years after bond is given, 1344 note (k).

by legatee receiving legacy subject to divesting contingency, 1389 note (z<sup>1</sup>).

by legatee for life, 1389 note (z<sup>1</sup>), 1396 note (c).

## SELECTION,

right of, by executor, 944, 945.

right of legatee, of a certain number of stock or articles, 1440.

power of, from a class, not exercised, 1115, 1116 note (o), 1117, 1423.

## SEPARATE PROPERTY,

of wife, 748 *et seq.* See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

"Married Woman's Property Act," 748 note (c).

## SERVANT,

executors of masters cannot enforce contract of service, 818.

wages of, whether entitled to precedence of payment by executor, 1025 and note (f).

how far extinguished by legacy, 1298 note (z).

legacies to, not entitled, 1367.

who entitled under the description of "servants," in a will, 1148.

## SET-OFF,

in actions by executors,

in an action by executor in his own name, defendant cannot set-off a debt due from testator, 1876.

rule in equity, 1878.

equitable demand cannot be set-off, 1877.

proper course where an equitable set-off exists, 1878 and note (v).

what constitutes an equitable set-off, 1878 and note (y).

in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, 1876 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

New York and other states, 1876 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

where estate is represented insolvent, 1876 note (o<sup>1</sup>) and (p).

legatee or distributee cannot set off legacy or distributive share against suit for debt by executor or administrator, 1876 note (p).

of demand for money paid to defray funeral expenses, 1876 note (q).

demand must generally have accrued in lifetime of deceased, 1876 note (q).

set-off of debt due estate in action for legacy, 1931 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

with respect to ground rent, 1876.

judgments, 1878, 1879.

in answer to the plea, the executor may give in evidence the advance of money by him *as executor*, to the defendant, 1879.

in actions *against* executors, 1952.

defendant cannot set-off a debt due to himself, 1952.

in suits in equity *by* executors, 1913.

**SET-OFF** — *continued*.

- in suits in equity *against* executors, 2032.
- by executor against legatee,
  - for debt due to testator, 1304–1309.
    - where executor may set off debt due from husband to testator against legacy to wife, 1308, 1309.
- by administrator against husband of next of kin, 1308.

**SETTLEMENT**,

- when an executor or administrator will gain by residing on leasehold of testator, 644, 645. See, also, 802.
- on wife,
  - effect of ante-nuptial, to protect the property in her favor, 752 and note (*k*<sup>1</sup>).
  - post-nuptial, 753 *et seq.*
  - widow's claims under the statute of distribution barred by, 1490.
    - under the customs, 1535, 1536.
  - voluntary under stat. 27 Eliz. c. 4, 753 note (*p*).
  - to defraud creditors under stat. 13 Eliz. c. 5, 753 notes (*p*) and (*q*).
- strict, gift to daughters "to be settled on them strictly," 1087.
- of estate by heirs and next of kin without administration, effect of, 630 note (*e*).
- out of court after administration, whether defence to suit on bond, 630 note (*e*).

**SEVERAL EXECUTORS.** See tit. *Executors*, and tit. *Co-Executors*.

**SHAREHOLDERS**,

- in public companies, liability of executors of, 1748, 1792 note (*q*).

**SHARES**,

- whether real or personal estate, 811.

**SHERIFF**,

- action against, by executor,
  - for a false return in lifetime of testator, 791.
  - for an escape in lifetime of testator, 791.
    - in executor's own time, 878.
      - he may either sue as executor or individually, 878.
  - for removing goods, before testator (the landlord) was paid a year's rent, 792.
- action against executor of,
  - does not lie for an escape, 1729.
    - secus*, upon a judgment for an escape, 1729 note (*n*), 1740.
  - lies in *assumpsit* for money levied and not paid over, 1730, 1731.

**SICKNESS**,

- extreme distress, debility of body, do not incapacitate one to make a will, if intelligence remains, 38 note (*u*).

**SIGNATURE.** See tit. *Will*.

- not necessary for a will of personalty, 68 *et seq.*
  - unless made after January 1, 1838 (1 Vict. c. 26), 68, 75.



**SIGNATURE** — *continued.*

presumption of law against unsigned will, 68.

how rebutted, 69.

of will by mark sufficient, 75 and note (*q*<sup>3</sup>).

to will by third person in presence of testator, 75 and note (*q*<sup>3</sup>).

whether signature for testator may be made by one of the attesting witnesses, 82.

person making must attest the will and state that fact, in Missouri, 82 note (*i*).

to what part of will signature must be affixed, 77 and notes (*x*<sup>1</sup>) and (*x*<sup>2</sup>), 78 *et seq.* and notes.

stat. 15 Vict. c. 24, 79–81.

what is a sufficient signing for testator by "some other person," 75 and notes (*q*<sup>2</sup>) and (*q*<sup>3</sup>), 79, 82.

whether person signing for testator should sign his own name or that of testator, 83.

whether acknowledgment by testator of signature suffices, 83.

where the will consists of several sheets, 83.

of several clauses written at several times, 83.

by witness with intent to attest, 88 note (*o*).

proof of, of witnesses, when they cannot be produced, 347 note (*g*), 352 note (*g*).

of testator, when, 352 note (*g*).

**SIMPLE CONTRACT,**

payment of debts by, 1025. See tit. *Debt*.

distinction between debts by, and specialty debts abolished, 1010.

**SLANDER,**

action for, does not survive for executor, 790.

nor against him, 1728.

**SLATE,**

will written on, held not valid, 111 note (*o*).

**SLAVES,**

executor's property in, 706.

**SOLDIERS,**

exception in statute of wills, 1 Vict. c. 26, and statute of frauds, as to nuncupative wills of, 116.

who are within this exception, 116, 117.

debts, &c. of, may be paid without probate or letters of administration 459.

pay, &c. of, not exceeding 50*l.* how paid, 459.

prize money of foreigners in the service of H. M., when paid without letters of administration, 460.

creditor of, taking out administration, 457.

priority of payment of their regimental debts, 995.

such debts to be paid without probate or administration, 459.

distribution of effects of, 995.

**SOLICITOR.** See tit. *Attorney*.

## SON, ELDEST,

when younger child considered, 1094.

## SOUND AND DISPOSING MIND AND MEMORY,

what is necessary to constitute, 12 note (a), 33 note (c), 40 and note (f).

memory required, 33 note (c), 39, 40 and note (g).

## "SOUNDING IN FOLLY,"

case of a will, 37.

## SPECIAL CASE,

executors may concur in statement of, 13 & 14 Vict. c. 35, s. 1, 1904.

## SPECIALTY,

debts by, 1010 *et seq.*, 1044. See tit. *Debt*.

distinction between, and simple contract debts, as to priority of payment

abolished, by 32 & 33 Vict. c. 46, 1010.

## SPECIFIC LEGACY,

executor's power over, 933.

nature and incidents of, 1158 and notes (s) and (t), 1159 *et seq.*, 1163 note (b).

specific or not depends on intent of testator, 1170 note (x).

of money, 1160.

a certain sum "in notes, to be taken out of my notes as soon after my death as it can be done," 1161 note (n).

of stock, shares, &c. 1161 *et seq.*, 1162 notes (x) and (z), 1165 note (l).

of "one half of all my stock in the following named railroads," 1162 note (x).

of all testator's interest in a certain number of shares in a bank, 1162 note (x).

of "all my stock in the Midland Railway Company," 1162 note (z).

parol evidence as to, 1167, 1168.

of "all notes of hand which are payable to me at the date of this codicil," 1163 note (b).

of a particular bond, 1163 note (b).

of the black horses I now own, or the black horses I shall be possessed of at my death, 1167 note (u).

not necessary that a specific legacy should be subject to ademption, 1167 note (u).

right in legatee to select a certain number of a stock of articles, 1158 note (z<sup>1</sup>), 1440.

of debts and securities, 1168.

of the money received under a decree in a certain suit, 1168 note (d).

of the amount of money that may be recovered of a person named, 1168 note (d).

of the avails of a certain bond and mortgage, 1168 note (d).

all the money due on a bond against a person named, 1168 note (d).

of a surplus after paying legacies, &c. 1272 note (k).

bequests connected with the realty, 1163 note (b), 1169-1171.

a direction to renew or keep in repair, 1163 note (b).

or to demise, 1163 note (b).

SPECIFIC LEGACY — *continued.*

bequests contained in a residuary clause, 1163 note (b), 1171.

of particular articles therein mentioned, 1163 note (b), 1172.

bequests of general personal estate, 1171 and note (f), 1172 note (g).

residuary bequest to one for life, remainder over, 1163 note (b), 1176 and note (x<sup>1</sup>) *et seq.*

bequest in the nature of, 1159.

demonstrative legacy, 1159. See tit. *Demonstrative Legacy.*

subject of, in all respects equally liable to testator's debts as to the rest of his property, 1340.

when legatee entitled to increase of, 1177 note (y), 1436–1439.

when bequest is confined to the date of the will, 1436–1439, 1438 note (p).

by stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, s. 24, the will shall take effect as if executed immediately before the death of the testator, 1436.

not to be sold by executor without necessity, 1440.

of an unopened packet, 1440.

payment or delivery of, 1436 *et seq.* See tit. *Payment of Legacies.*

executor's liability to exonerate, 1763.

action at law lies for, after assent, 1933.

SPIRITUAL COURT. See tit. *Ecclesiastical Court.*

## SPOILIATION,

of will, remedy in equity, against executor for, 312.

## STAMPS,

on exemplification of letters of administration *de bonis non*, 1890.

DUTIES ON PROBATES AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION, 595 *et seq.*

55 Geo. 3, c. 184, not affected by probate act, 598.

amount of duties, 595–597.

the stamp must be enough to cover the value as it stood at the date of the grant of letters, &c. 616.

to be charged on ships, 598.

probate exempted from duty where the effects do not exceed 100*l.*, 598.

wills and administrations of seamen and soldiers slain in battle exempted, 598.

penalty for not proving wills or taking letters, 599.

ecclesiastical courts not to grant probate or letters without affidavit of value, &c. 599.

affidavit to be sent to commissioners of stamps, 600.

what property to be included, in the value sworn to, 615–627.

provision for too high a duty being paid, 600.

for too low a duty, 601.

ecclesiastical courts not to take surrenders of probate, &c. on the ground of wrong stamp, 602, 603.

further stamp duty not to be received by commissioners of stamps without notice to the ordinary who granted the letters, 602.

penalty on executors or administrators not paying full duty, 603.

STAMPS — *continued*.

DUTIES ON PROBATES AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION — *continued*.

penalty for not proving wills or taking letters of administration within a given time, 972.

credit may be given for the duty, 603.

case of letters *de bonis non* taken out before payment, 605.

affidavits by executor residing out of England, as to trust money, 605, 606.

what is trust property within the 55 Geo. 3, c. 184, 616, 617.

return of duty in respect of debts, 606–608.

liability of assets, if return fraudulently procured, 628.

provisions of former acts to extend to 55 Geo. 3, 609.

48 Geo. 3, c. 149, probates, &c. valid as to trust property, though not covered by stamp, 609.

affidavit by executor as to trust, 610, 611.

39 & 40 Geo. 3, allowance for useless stamps, 611, 612.

41 Geo. 3, stamp for probate or letters, where probate or letters before taken out, and duties paid, 612.

28 & 29 Vict. c. 104, s. 57, summary proceedings for payment of probate duties, 613, 973.

probate, &c. not properly stamped cannot be given in evidence, 614.

consequence of its appearing at trial that stamp is too low, 614, 1891.

grant not void, 614.

neither action at law, nor any proceedings in equity maintainable as executors, &c. to receive more than stamp covers, 614 and note (m).

what debts must be included in the amount of stamps, 615.

duly regulated by value of assets, within jurisdiction of the court, which grants probate, 617.

duty on property in a foreign country, 618–621.

bonds of foreign states, 621.

no duty on land directed to be converted into money, 622.

nor on partnership real property, 622.

duty on execution of general powers by will, 623–627.

23 & 24 Vict. c. 15, s. 4, personal estate appointed by will under general powers to be chargeable with probate and inventory duties, 627.

probate and inventory duties in respect thereof to be a charge on the property, 628.

whether if executor procures return of probate on false representations the crown can revert to the assets for payment, 606, 607, 628.

DUTIES ON LEGACIES AND SUCCESSIONS TO PERSONAL ESTATES, 1550 *et seq.*

55 Geo. 3, c. 184, 1550.

power and provisions of former acts to extend to, 1555.

formerly the duties were on the *receipts*, 1555.

stat. 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, provisions of, 1555.

STAMPS—*continued.*DUTIES ON LEGACIES AND SUCCESSIONS TO PERSONAL ESTATES —  
*continued.*

stat. 36 Geo. 3, c. 52, duties to be paid by executors, &c. on retaining or paying legacies, &c. 1556.

what shall be deemed a legacy, 1557. See, also, 1585.

if not paid before retainer, a debt by them; if legacy paid without deducting a debt by both parties to the king, 1556.

if legatee refuses to accept the legacy, the duty being deducted, executor to have costs of suit subsequently instituted for such legacy, without formal tender of legacy, 1571.

if suit instituted for administration, court to provide for the payment of the duty, 1572.

executors may discharge legacies on payment of duty accrued, 1572.

no legacy to be paid without a receipt, 1573.

mistakes in paying duty rectified, 1577.

legacy given to an infant or absentee, 1578.

compounding for duty, 1579.

legacy refunded, duty repaid, 1580.

executors, &c. retaining their legacies, to transmit particulars to the commissioners, 1581.

duty on administration afterwards made void, 1582.

stat. 45 Geo. 3, c. 28,

legacies out of real estate subject to duties, 1583. See, too, 1585.

what shall be deemed a legacy under that act, 1583 and note (x).

act shall not extend to appointment by will under settlements, 1584.

by whom duties to be paid, 1584.

stat. 39 Geo. 3, c. 73, legacies of books bequeathed to body corporate, 1586, 1537.

*Amount of duties payable, 1550–1554, 1612–1619.*

what shall be considered a legacy paid before 31st August, 1815, 1612–1617.

in case of a legacy to husband and wife, where the one is a child of the testator, and the other a stranger, 1618.

the law in this respect altered by succession duty act, 1618.

in what cases duty is payable on the interest as well as the principal, 1619.

*Upon what subject duties are payable, 1550–1554, 1620–1644.*

what gifts are to be deemed legacies (8 & 9 Vict. c. 76), 1586.

not leasehold since succession duty act, 1596, 1620.

donations *mortis causâ*, 1558, 1586.

annuities, 1558.

how the value to be calculated, 1559, 1560.

STAMPS — *continued.**Upon what subjects duties are payable — continued.*

- on legacies to be enjoyed by persons in succession, 1561–1564.
- plate, 1564.
- property not reduced into money, 1568–1570.
- legacies subject to contingencies, 1565.
- legacies subject to power of appointment, 1566, 1589, 1623 *et seq.*
- personal estate directed to be applied in purchase of real, 1567.
- estates *pur autre vie*, 1567.
- money left to pay duty not chargeable, 1567.
- money given by trust deed with power of revocation, 1621–1623. See, too, 1591.
- legacies under a testamentary appointment under a power, 1623 *et seq.*
- promissory note, with an engagement that it should not be demanded till after death, 1622.
- legacy charged on land by the execution of a power created by will, 1626.
  - by the execution of a power created by deed, 1627, 1628.
- legacies out of real estate, 1584, 1628–1630.
  - annuity out of, 1631.
  - land directed to be sold, 1628, 1629.
- legacies to be laid out in land, 1632.
- legacy consisting of forgiveness of debt, 1632, 1633.
- a bequest in trust for creditors, 1633, 1634, 1649.
- legacy given to a charity, 1634–1636.
- legacies of property in this country belonging to a foreigner, 1637 *et seq.*
- legacy of property situate out of Great Britain, 1637–1642.

*By whom the duties are payable, 1645 et seq.*

- on legacies enjoyed by persons in succession, 1561.
  - by joint tenants, 1565.
- on legacies on real estate, 1584, 1645.
- trustee paying duty, &c. may recover it, notwithstanding assignment of interest, 1646.
- question on the terms of the will, whether legatee is to have his legacy duty free, 1646 *et seq.*
  - out of what funds the duty of a legacy duty free is to be paid, 1654.

*Duties on succession to property, 1587 et seq.*

- 16 & 17 Vict. 51 (succession duty act), 1587 *et seq.*
- what dispositions, &c. shall confer successions, 1587–1590.
- duties on successions, 1591–1593.
  - on transmitted successions, 1593.
  - payable in respect of transferred interests, 1594.
  - on successions subject to charitable trusts, &c. 1594.
  - payable by corporations, &c. taking real estate, 1599.

STAMPS — *continued.**Duties on succession to property — continued.*duties on successions — *continued.*

when to be paid, 1596, 1597.

paid by mistake, returned, 1603.

a first charge on property, 1604.

what persons accountable for, 1605.

provision for life policies and *post obit* bonds, 1595.

exemptions, 1595.

leaseholds not chargeable with legacy duty as personal estate, 1596.

interest of a succession in real property to be considered as an annuity, 1597.

how annuity to be valued, 1601.

how personalty to be assessed, 1601.

properties may be separately assessed, 1605.

rules for valuing land, &amp;c. 1598.

rule as to advowsons, 1598.

as to property subject to beneficial leases, 1599.

as to manors, mines, &amp;c. 1599.

real property directed to be sold charged as personalty, 1600.

personalty to be invested in real property how to be charged, 1600.

allowance for fines, &amp;c. paid by successor, 1600.

to donee of power of appointment, 1601.

for incumbrances, 1602.

in respect of relinquished property, 1603.

no allowance in respect of contingent incumbrances, 1602.

commissioners :

duties to be under care of, 1591.

may compound duty, 1603.

may receive duty in advance, 1604.

may commute future duties, 1604.

notice of succession to be given to, and return of property made, 1606, 1607.

penalty on not giving notice to, 1607.

proceeding if return not made to, 1607.

power of, to enforce return from executors, &amp;c. 1607.

accounting party must verify accounts if required by, 1608.

may appeal against assessment of, 1608, 1609 and note (*u*).receipt of, a protection to *bonâ fide* purchasers, 1609.

court in suits for the administration of property to provide for payment of duty, 1610.

## STATUTE,

penal, action upon, does not survive against executor, 1728.

of limitations. See tit. *Limitations.*

## STATUTE MERCHANT,

estate by, goes to executor, 675.

liability of executor upon, 1721, 1740 note (*p*).

STATUTE MERCHANT — *continued.*

description of, 1007.

its rank as to payment by executor, 1007.

void for want of formalities, ranks as a bond, 1009.

joint and several statute, 1009.

for the payment of money at a future day, 1009, 1021.

on a contingency, 1009.

estates by,

pass to executor, 675.

STATUTE STAPLE,

estate by, goes to executor, 675.

liability of executor upon, 1721, 1740 note (p).

description of, 1007, 1008.

its rank as to payment by executor, 1009. See tit. *Statute Merchant.*

recognizance in nature of, 1008.

STOCK IN PUBLIC FUNDS,

transfer of, how to be made by executors, 813.

bequest of money in, 86.

is effectual without two witnesses, 86, 813.

unless the will was made after January 1, 1838, 86.

the stock does not vest in the devisee until the executor assents, 812, 1372.

laches by neglect to invest legacies directed to be laid out in stock, 1398.

what amounts to a specific legacy of, 1161 *et seq.*

rights of executors with respect to, 811, 1373.

transfer at the bank into their names, 1373.

dividends of. See tit. *Dividends.*

not apportionable at common law, 836.

of money to be laid out in land, 838.

case of tenant for life dying on the day they become due, 836.

loss of assets by fall of, 1810.

when executor liable for, 1810.

three per cents. the proper funds for investments, 1811. But see statutes cited, 1811, 1812.

receipt for,

indorsed may operate as a will, 105.

bonus on bank stock,

passes to legatee of capital, 1439.

belonging to *feme covert*,

when it passes to her husband's executor, 852.

standing in name of lunatic executor, &c. how transferred, 13 & 14 Vict. c. 60, 2055 *et seq.*

executor abroad, &c. 2057.

East India, what is meant by, 1812 note (I).

bank stock, 1191 note (s).

includes subscription for new shares, 1194 note (a).



**STOCK ON FARM,**

what passes by description of, 1187.

**STOP ORDER,**

not obtainable, if probate stamp insufficient, 614 note (m).

**STOVES.** See tit. *Fixtures*.**STRICT SETTLEMENT, 1087.** Vide tit. *Settlement*.**SUBSCRIBING WITNESSES.** See tits. *Evidence, Witnesses*.**SUBSTITUTED CODICIL,**

revocation of prior codicil by, 167.

**SUBSTITUTED EXECUTOR,**

appointment of, 245.

in what cases he may be admitted to the office, 246, 247.

**SUBSTITUTED LEGACIES,**

doctrine of, 1289 *et seq.* See tit. *Cumulative Legacies*.

subject generally to incidents of original gift, 1295, 1296 note (k).

**SUBSTITUTED LEGATEE,**

for legatee dying before the legacy becomes vested, 1114, 1139 *et seq.*, 1207 *et seq.*, 1211 note (c).

**SUCCESSION DUTY.** See tit. *Stamps*.**SUGGESTION,**

by executor, &c. of the death of sole, or sole surviving, plaintiff, under C. L. P. Act, 891.

to revive a judgment, 900, 1992.

**SUICIDE,**

commission of, shortly after making a will, 20.

no inference to be drawn from in reference to sanity, 20 note (x).

fact to be weighed with other evidence, 20 note (x).

**SUIT.** See tits. *Remedy, Bill in Equity*.**SUMMONS, ADMINISTRATION,**

under 15 & 16 Vict. c. 86, s. 45, 2008 *et seq.*

**SUMMONS AND SEVERANCE,**

doctrine of, in case of action brought by several executors, 1868 note (r).

**SUNDAY,**

will made on, valid, 65 note (a).

**SUPERSTITIOUS USES.** See tit. *Charitable Uses*.

legacy to, 1055 *et seq.*

as to their existence in American States, 1055 note (s<sup>1</sup>).

**SUPERVISOR,**

office of, distinguished from that of executor, 243.

**SURETY,**

in joint and several bond, may retain out of his principal's estate, if his executor, 1047, 1048.

a joint contract cannot be considered as several, in favor of a surety, 1745, 1746.

paying a joint or several bond, is only a simple contract creditor of his principal, 1048.

**SURPLUS,**

of money arising from sale of land for particular purpose, to whom it belongs, 664 note (j), 667 note (u), 668 note (m), 689 and note (n).

**SURRENDER,**

of a term,

one of several executors may accept, 950 note (z).

**SURVIVOR,**

the word construed "other," 1086, 1486 and notes.

**SURVIVORSHIP.** See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

to what period to be referred, 1465 *et seq.*

as to residue,

in cases of several legatees, 1461.

of joint tenants, 1462, 1464 note (v).

of tenants in common, 1463.

of gift as to a class, 1467-1472, 1469 note (e<sup>s</sup>).

of several executors, 1472, 1473. See, also, 855.

as to a legacy to several, where one dies before the testator, 1215.

as to property of partners, 651, 843. See tit. *Partners*.

as to executorship, 953 *et seq.*

as to accruing shares, 1217.

of one of two persons, who perish by shipwreck, or other common death, 1204 and note (e). See, also, 464 note (q), and 855.

of actions. See tit. *Action*.

surviving partner who is administrator of deceased partner's estate, may be called to account in probate court, for account of partnership estate, *Leland v. Newton*, 102 Mass. 350.

**T.****TAPESTRY,**

passes to the executor, 738.

**TAX,**

distress cannot be made for, after decease of person taxed, 2001 note (b).

**TAXATION,**

to administrator, *Carleton v. Ashburnham*, 102 Mass. 348.

**TEAZLES,**

whether they are emblems, 711 note (s).

**TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATION.** See tit. *Administration*.

grant of, 513 *et seq.*

**TENANT.** See tit. *Landlord and Tenant*, and tit. *Rent*.**TENANTS IN COMMON,**

legacy given to,

what words make a tenancy in common, 1463, 1464.

effect of death of one before testator, 1215, 1461, 1462.

after testator, 1461, 1462.

**TENANT FROM YEAR TO YEAR,**

his estate goes to executors, 678.

**TENANT FOR LIFE,**

executor of,

liability for neglect to renew a lease, 1769.

his right to rent, 826 *et seq.*

to damages for breaches of covenant in the time of the deceased, 842.

of personal property, remainder over, 1390 *et seq.*

a person taking the residue for life, is entitled to the proceeds from testator's death, 1390, 1391 and note (l).

difficulties in the application of this doctrine, 1391-1396, 1392 and note (s).

residue given in trust for life and remainder over, when conversion is considered as made, 1391 note (l).

from what time tenant for life to receive income, and how computed, 1391 note (l).

where the bequest is of things *quæ ipso usu consumuntur*, 1396 and note (c<sup>1</sup>).

rule in Maryland, and New Hampshire, 1396 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

of things daily wearing out, 1393, 1395 note (x).

inventory by tenant for life, 1396.

remedy against tenant for life who squanders the property, 1396 note (c).

court may require security, 1396 note (c).

when duty of executor not to pay over to legatee for life, 1396 note (c).

executor having delivered the property to legatee for life in a proper case is discharged, 1396 note (c).

duty of executor to convert the property into three per cents., 1392 note (s), 1394 and notes (t<sup>1</sup>) and (u). See tit. *Conversion*.

consequence of neglecting to do so, 1811.

when takes income in *specie*, 1163 note (b).

right in bonuses, extra dividends and the like, 1395 note (z).

**TENANT PUR AUTER VIE**, 680 *et seq.* See tit. *Estate pur auter vie*.

**TENANT IN TAIL**. See tit. *Estate Tail*.

**TENDER,**

plea of, by executor, 1953.

**TERM FOR YEARS**. See tits. *Lease*, *Estate*.

attendant on inheritance, 680, 1675.

**TESTAMENT**. See tit. *Will*.

definition of last will and testament, 6.

included in term "will," 291 note (n).

inofficious testaments, 38.

distinction between *testamentum* and *ultima voluntas*, 6 note (b).

**TESTAMENTARY GUARDIAN**. See tit. *Guardian*.

**THEN,**

construction of word, 1123 note (b).

to what period to be referred in a bequest to persons "then living," 1466 note (y).

**TIMBER.** See tit. *Trees*.

**TITHES,**

- when successor entitled to, of emblements, 717.
- apportionment of rent under lease of, 828.
  - how it shall be made, 838.
- apportionment of rent-charges under tithes commutation act, 834 note (o).
- debt for not setting out tithes lay for executor, 792.
  - not against him, 1733.
    - but he was liable for the value, 1733.
- due to wife's estate,
  - when they went to husband's executor, 854.
- when executor was considered in possession of, 635.

**TITLE,**

- sale of "pretenced title" by administrator, within stat. 3 & 4 Hen. 8, 649.
- when it vests in executor, 629 *et seq.*
  - in administrator, 630 and note (d).

**TOMBSTONES,** 969 note (d). See tit. *Gravestones*.

**TRADE,**

- profits of, carried on by executor, shall be assets in all cases, 1658.
- executors have no authority to carry on the trade of the testator, 1791.
  - what is meant by this doctrine, 1794, 1795.
- liability of executor continuing, 1791.
  - liability of testator's estate, 1792, 1793.
    - how far it will make the executor a trader, 1794, 1795.
- covenant not to exercise,
  - personal to testator, 1725, 1726.

**TRADERS,**

- real assets of, 1563.

**TRAITOR,**

- incapable of making a will, 63, 64.
  - unless pardoned, 64.
- may make a will as executor, 64.
- incapable of being administrator, 449.

**TRANSLATION,**

- of foreign document, 371 note (i).

**TREES,**

- when they pass to the executor, and when to the heir, 707-709.
- action for cutting, does not survive to the executor, 793.
  - when trespass *de bonis asportatis* may be maintained, 793, 794.
- does not survive against executor, 1732.
  - he is liable in an action for the value arising from the sale, 1732.

**TRESPASS,**

- action of,
  - did not survive for executor, &c. at common law, 790. See tit. *Action*.
  - stat. 4 Edw. 3, 790.
  - lies now whenever the personal estate has been injured by a trespass, 791, 792.

TRESPASS — *continued.*

action of — *continued.*

did not survive for executor, &c. at common law — *continued.*

stat. 4 Edw. 3 — *continued.*

does not lie at common law, for trespasses to the freehold or person of testator, 793.

stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, 793.

when it lies, *de bonis asportatis*, for corn, grass, trees, &c. cut and carried away, 793, 794.

for torts in the time of the executor, 876, 877.

does not survive at common law, *against* executor, 1728.

for mesne profits, 1731. See tit. *Mesné Profits*.

stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 42, 1734.

by executor and administrator, 631.

## TRINITY,

persons denying, not disabled from being executors, 238.

## TROVER,

lies for executor, upon conversion in time of testator, 791.

by executor, where goods are converted after testator's death, 877.

how executor may declare, 877 and notes (d) and (k).

against legatee, for taking legacy without assent, 1374.

does not survive *against* executor, 1728.

but he may be sued on a conversion in his own time, 1730.

when money had and received will lie, 1730.

brought against a defendant executor and others not executors erroneous, 1936.

cured by *nolle prosequi*, 1936.

by executor or administrator, 631.

## TRUST,

breaches of,

when considered debts by specialty, 1018 *et seq.*

liability of executor of trustee for, 1789.

what acts amount to, 1796 *et seq.* See tit. *Devastavit*.

arising from office of executor,

cognizance of courts of equity of, 294, 2006.

liability of executor for breaches of, 1796 *et seq.*

property bequeathed to executors as trustees, 1399 note (m).

taking probate is an acceptance of the particular trusts, 1287, 1796.

revocation of appointment as executors, no revocation of that as trustees, 1796 note (h).

estate, passes by general devise, when, 1193 note (h).

in discretion of trustee, 1422 note (P).

unequal distribution among a class of persons named, 1422 note (P).

## TRUSTEES,

distinction between, and executors, 241, 242. See, also, 1796 note (h).

infant trustees, orders of the court of chancery in respect of the estates of

13 & 14 Vict. c. 60, and 15 & 16 Vict. c. 55, 2056, 2057.

**TRUSTEES** — *continued*.

lord chancellor may make vesting and other orders respecting lands or stock of lunatic trustees, 2056.

out of the jurisdiction of the court, or uncertain whether living or dead, or refusing to transfer stock, &c., 2057.

*act for relief of* (10 & 11 Vict. c. 96, and 12 & 13 Vict. c. 74), 1901–1904.

executor appointed trustee by will may qualify as executor and decline to act as trustee, 1796 note (*h*).

where bond is required for each office, effect of giving bond for the former and not for the latter, 1796 note (*h*).

where office of executor accepted and that of trustee declined, court may appoint another person to the latter office, 1796 note (*h*).

rule as to security by trustee in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, 1796 note (*h*).

for charitable trusts, give no bonds, 1796 note (*h*).

liability of executor who pays over fund to trustee before he has given bonds when required, 1796 note (*h*).

executor appointed trustee by the will holds as executor until he has given the security required of trustee and charged himself as trustee, 1399 note (*m*), 1796 note (*h*).

how change from executor to trustee shown where no bond is required of either, 1796 note (*h*).

when sureties of executor, as such, liable, and when his sureties as trustee, 1399 note (*m*).

when executor, as such, is required to do certain acts by the will, his bond as executor will stand as security for the performance, 1399 note (*m*).

rule that trustees shall make no profit by use of the funds of the estate, 1841 note (*k*), 1842 notes (*m*) and (*o*).

**TURNPIKE BONDS,**

whether real securities, 1817 note (*d*).

**U.****UNATTESTED PAPERS,**

referred to in a will or codicil. See tit. *Papers*.

**UNCERTAINTY,**

inconsistent wills of same date void for, 166.

legacy for “next of kin or heir-at-law,” void for, 1110.

legacy void for, 1153 notes (*t*<sup>1</sup>) and (*x*<sup>1</sup>), 1154 note (*y*).

**UNCLE,**

his degree as next of kin, 1510.

grandfather preferred to him, 423, 1510.

great grandfather shall share with him in distribution, 1510.

so shall nephews and nieces, 1510.

**UNDERSTANDING,**

loss of, from age or otherwise, invalidates will, 38.

weakness of, 39 and note (*a*<sup>1</sup>), 40.

memory necessary to, 40 note (*g*).

**UNDEVEISED ESTATE,**

where there is a will, how to be administered, 65 note (b), 1474 notes (s<sup>1</sup>) and (t).

**UNDUE INFLUENCE.** See tit. *Influence.***UNIVERSITIES,**

exception in the statute of mortmain in favor of, 1059, 1073.

**"UNMARRIED,"**

what is meant by, in a legacy, 1098, 1276.

may be construed as "a spinster," and not "a widow," 1098.

term of flexible meaning, 1098 note (q).

**USE AND HIRE,**

of horse, which has been taken by testator, action lies against his executor for, 1730.

**USE AND OCCUPATION,**

action for,

lies against executor, who has had the mesne profits up to the day of the demise in ejectment, 1731.

but not after, 1731, 1732.

relief in equity, 1732.

executor is personally liable in, 1756 note (g), 1775. But see 1939 and note (d).

**UTENSILS,**

what passes by description of, in a will, 1188.

**V.****VACATING.** See tits. *Probate, Removal.*

letters testamentary, causes of, 235 note (q), 575 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 576 note (r).

fraud, error, or mistake, 576 note (r).

grant of administration, causes of, no property within jurisdiction, 576 note (s).

**VENDOR AND PURCHASER,**

property contracted for by testator will pass by description of it as his actual property, 1202.

conversion in equity of the estate contracted for, 659-661, 1762, 1763.

liability of executor of vendee to complete the purchase, 1762, 1763.

marshalling assets, with respect to vendor's lien, 1715 *et seq.*

**VENUE,**

in an action by a lessor against executor of lessee for rent in testator's time, transitory, 1939.

for rent in his own time, local, 1939.

in a declaration upon a writ of revivor may be laid in any county, 1992.

in actions by or against executors or administrators in Massachusetts, 1938 note (q).

**VESTED LEGACIES,**

doctrine of, 1204 *et seq.*, 1203 note (c<sup>1</sup>), 1225-1229 and notes. See tit. *Lapsed Legacies.*

when "vested" means vested in possession or "payable," 1257.

**VILLAIN,**

was capable of being executor, 235 note (o).

**VOID,**

when grant of probate or of letters of administration is, 586 *et seq.*

supposed testator or intestate living, 586 note (a), 587 note (f).

grant of administration or probate not confirmed by time and acquiescence, 586 note (a).

incapable of confirmation, 587 note (e).

payment to an administrator of one supposed to be dead, but actually alive, does not discharge the debt, 587 note (f).

relief in such case by statute in Massachusetts, 591 note (e<sup>1</sup>).

legacy or legacies do not defeat whole will, 1153 note (t<sup>1</sup>).

**VOLUNTARY CONTRACT,**

executor not bound to complete, 1769, 1770.

bond or covenant, 1015, 1016.

**VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT,**

as to creditors, when valid and when invalid, 753 note (p), 754 notes (q) and (s) and (t).

**W.**

**WAGER OF LAW,**

abolished, 1981.

**WAGES,**

debt due to servants for, whether entitled to priority, 1025 and note (f).

how far extinguished by legacy, 1298 note (z).

**WAIVER,**

of lease by executor, 680, 1757.

**WALES,**

ancient law *de rationabili parte bonorum* continued in, till 7 & 8 W. 3, c. 88, 3.

distribution under custom of, 1528.

**WARRANT OF ATTORNEY,**

when executor may enter up judgment on, 906, 907.

when judgment may be entered against a testator on, 2002.

**WASTE,**

action for, does not survive to executor at common law, 793 note (m).

nor against him, 1732.

but an action lies for the benefit arising from the sale of trees cut, or ore dug, 1732, 1733.

so a suit for equitable waste, 1733.

**WATERCOURSE,**

action for diverting, does not survive to executor at common law, 793.

nor against him, 1728.

**WEAKNESS,**

of understanding,

what is sufficient to be a ground of incapacity, 39.



**"WEARING APPAREL,"**

1185 notes (*m*) and (*p*).

**WEST INDIES.** See tit. *Colonies*.

commission allowed to executors in, 1857.

**WIDOW.** See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

her common law right to a third of her husband's goods, 2.

republication of will by, 55, 225.

will made by, during coverture, not revoked by her surviving, 63, 192.

her right to administration, 409 *et seq.*

her right to her chattels real after her husband's death, 690 *et seq.*

chooses in action, 846 *et seq.*

separate property, 748 *et seq.*

paraphernalia, 763 *et seq.*

allowance and provisions for support after death of husband, 763 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>).

as to her right to property of deceased husband, which is exempt from execution in Mississippi and other states, 763 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>).

as to her right of quarantine in some states, 763 note (*o*<sup>1</sup>). See tit. *Allowances*.

legacy to,

in restraint of marriage, 1275 *et seq.*

in lieu of dower considered as a purchase, 1365.

when she is put to an election between it and her dower, 1444.

stat. 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 105, 1444.

does not carry interest from testator's death, 1425.

a married woman by the description of "widow," 1156.

waiver by, of provisions in will in Massachusetts, and effect of, 1365 note (*p*).

if she takes provision of will instead of dower, she takes as purchaser, 1365 note (*p*).

her legacy has no preference over specific legacy, 1365 note (*p*).

her rights under the statute of distributions, 1490 *et seq.* See tit. *Distribution*.

a child shall not bring in his advancement for her benefit, 1501.

her rights to a share of her husband's effects under the customs of London and York, 1533 *et seq.* See tit. *Distribution*, 1529.

her right to dower not affected by 3 & 4 W. 4, c. 104, 1692 note (*l*).

**WIFE.** See tit. *Husband and Wife*.

capable of being legatee, 1053.

bequest to, not extended to after taken wife, 1103.

not being a lawful wife, 1155.

**WILD'S CASE,**

rule in, 1093.

**WILL,**

mutual, 10, 124, 191. See tit. *Mutual Wills*.

duplicate, 154-156, 315. See tit. *Duplicate Wills*.

contingent, 188.

WILL — *continued.*

*nuncupative*, 116 *et seq.* See tit. *Nuncupative Will*.

made in jest, 106 note (*p*).

of seaman or marine, 394. See tit. *Seaman*.

## OF PERSONAL PROPERTY,

power of making, has existed from earliest period, 1.

including terms for years, 1.

not at common law of the whole, unless testator died without either wife or issue, 1, 2.

writ *de rationabili parte bonorum* for wife and children, 2.

*query*, whether this was the general law, or a custom only? 2.

the law now altered, as a man may bequeath the whole, 3-5.

statutes for York, Wales, and London, 3, 4.

Chester, 4, 5.

termed *testamentum*, 6 note (*b*).

definition of last will and testament, 6 and note (*b*).

may operate on personal estate acquired since the date of will, 6.

distinction between, in this respect, and a will of lands, 6.

removed as to wills made after 1st of January, 1838, 6 note (*d*), 220.

so in the American States generally, 6 note (*d*).

in strictness cannot exist without the appointment of an executor, 7.

distinction between, in this respect, and a codicil, 7.

one person named executor in will, another in codicil, 8 note (*p*).

the bare nomination of executor will make it a will, 227.

need not originate with testator if he understand and adopt one proposed to him, 46 note (*q*).

its nature,

different from a deed, though it be sealed, 9, 10.

in all cases a revocable instrument, 6 note (*a*), 10.

cannot be joint or mutual, 10.

whether such a will can be enforced in equity as a compact, 124-126.

WHO IS CAPABLE OF MAKING, 12 *et seq.*

aliens, 12.

the king or queen, 12, 13, 14.

*persons incapable from want of discretion*, 15 *et seq.*

infants, 15. See tit. *Infant*.

males under fourteen, females under twelve, 15.

if of sufficient discretion, 16.

not good by custom at an earlier age, 16.

approval on coming of age, of will made during minority, 17.

stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, 14.

idiots, 17.

WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*WHO IS CAPABLE OF MAKING — *continued.**persons incapable from want of discretion — continued.*idiots — *continued.*

who are considered so, 17.

will made by, void, though properly made, 17.

deaf and dumb, 17.

deaf, but not dumb, 18.

dumb, but not deaf, 18.

## blind persons, 18.

what formalities necessary, 18.

persons who cannot read, 19.

lunatics, 19 *et seq.* See tit. *Lunatic.*

persons who have outlived their understanding, 38.

incapacity from old age, 38.

persons in *extremis*, 39.

persons of weak understanding, 39, 40.

persons drunk, 41.

habitual drunkards, 41.

part of a will established, and part not, from incapacity, 42.

a will established, though attesting witnesses speak to incapacity, 37, 348.

inofficious testaments, 38.

*persons incapable from want of liberty or free will, 44 et seq.*

will obtained by *force*, 44.

will obtained by *fear*, 44.

what is the sort of fear to annul, 45.

will obtained by *fraud*, 45.

what is the sort of fraud to annul, 45.

cannot be set aside in equity, 45, 552.

will obtained by *impertunity*, 46.

the legal acceptance of the word, 46.

made by interrogatories good, but difficult to prove, 46.

will obtained by *influence*, 46–51, 60.

what sort of influence will invalidate, 47.

may be good as to some parts, and bad as to others, 48  
and note (a).

will of *seamen*, 51.

made on same instrument with a warrant of attorney,  
bad, 51.

or on a different instrument, 52.

made as security for debt, void, 52.

but a will made in favor of his creditor may be  
good, 52.

will of *feme covert*, 52–53. See tit. *Husband and Wife.*

WILL — *continued.*

OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*

WHO IS CAPABLE OF MAKING — *continued.*

*persons incapable from criminal conduct*, 63.

traitors and felons, 63, 64. See *tit. Traitor, Felon.*

outlaws, 64. See *tit. Outlaw.*

persons excommunicate, 65. See *tit. Excommunication.*

persons guilty of crimes short of felony, 65. See *tit. Crime.*

FORM AND MANNER OF MAKING, 66 *et seq.*

difference between formalities before and since stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, 66.

presumption as to whether a will without date was made before or since the act came into operation, 67, 68.

whether law at time of execution of, or at the time of death of testator determines legality of execution, 67 note (*f*).

real time of execution of will without date may be shown, 67 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).

writing,

must be in, 67.

only formality necessary before 1 Vict. c. 26, 66.

when not in testator's writing, 70.

signature, 68–70.

not necessary at common law, 68.

presumption of law against unexecuted will, 68.

how rebutted, 69.

case of unexecuted will of realty and personalty, 70.

how to be made under stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, 75–84.

must be made at the foot or end thereof, by the testator, 75.

or by some person in his presence, 75.

when signature valid as being at the foot or end, 15 Vict. c. 24, 78–81.

by mark sufficient, 75 and note (*q*<sup>9</sup>), 76.

sealing not sufficient, 77.

whether mere acknowledgment of a signature suffices, 83.

where will consists of several sheets, 83.

of several clauses written at several times, 83.

attestation, 84–103.

not necessary to the execution of wills of personalty made before 1st January, 1838, 84.

but an attestation clause without witnesses raises a presumption against the will, 85.

to a devise of stock, 86, 813.

to wills made on or after 1 January, 1838, 86.

what is a sufficient acknowledgment of signature of testator to the witnesses, 87–89, 87 notes (*l*) and (*n*), and 88 note (*n*).

WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*FORM AND MANNER OF MAKING — *continued.*attestation — *continued.*

to wills made on or after 1 January, 1838 — *continued.*

how and when the witnesses must attest, 90, 91.

what it is necessary the witnesses should see or know respecting the paper signed by them, 87 note (l).

or of the signature of the testator to it, 87 note (l).

what is the presence of testator, 91-93.

form of, not necessary but desirable, 93.

by marksmen sufficient, 93.

*semble*, initials sufficient, 94 note (n).

with a guided hand sufficient, 94.

but not by seal, 95.

acknowledgment of signature by writing not sufficient, 95.

in what part of the will the witnesses must subscribe, 95, 96.

effect of evidence of attesting witnesses as to the circumstances of attestation, 101-103.

unattested papers referred to by will, 97-99.

a will cannot create a power of disposition by a future unattested paper, 99.

of will written on several sheets, 96, 97.

instructions for a will,

when they will and will not operate as a will, 70-72.

must be in writing, 71.

when insanity supervenes between them and execution of will, 43.

testament found among testator's muniments, 72.

imperfect papers, 73-75.

distinction between "imperfect" and "unexecuted," 73.

See, too, 169 note (d).

effect of recognition of, 75.

blanks left in, effect of, 74 note (n), 81.

casual omissions, &c. in,

in what cases they may be supplied in the probate, 348.

form, 103-107.

whether a paper is a will, depends on its contents, and not upon any declarations of the testator, 104 note (a).

whether declarations of testator, or other extrinsic evidence admissible to show that an instrument was intended to operate as a testamentary disposition, 106 and note (q).

testamentary form not necessary, 104.

deed poll or an indenture may operate as, 104.

deed of gift, 104, 1620, 1623.

WILL — *continued.*

OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*

FORM AND MANNER OF MAKING — *continued.*

form — *continued.*

testamentary form not necessary — *continued.*

deed poll or an indenture may operate as — *continued.*

bond, 104.

paper in form of power of attorney, 104 note (a).

paper may be deed on other contract as to one part  
and a will as to another, 104 note (c), 105 note  
(m).

paper intended to operate as a deed, cannot take  
effect as a will, though invalid as a deed, 105  
note (o), 106.

marriage settlements, 104.

letters, 104 and note (f).

drafts on bankers, 104.

assignment of bond or note by indorsement, 105 and  
note (h).

receipts for stock indorsed, 105.

bills and notes indorsed, 105.

promissory notes, and notes payable to executors,  
105 and note (m), 1623.

the supposed exercise of a power may operate as a  
mere will, 105.

testator need not intend a testamentary act, 105.

testator in a subsequent paper, &c. saying *he has be-*  
*queathed*, 107.

but the instrument must depend on the death of tes-  
tator for consummation, 107, 1620, 1621.

there must be *animus testandi*, 106 note (p).

will made in jest, 106 note (p).

papers or instruments in terms dispositive entitled to  
probate unless they are proved not to have been writ-  
ten *animus testandi*, 106, 107.

as to papers of an equivocal character, the *animus tes-*  
*tandi* must be proved by the party asserting it, 107.

several instruments of different natures may constitute a will,  
107.

a second will disposing of property not embraced in the  
first and general will, admitted to probate in a foreign  
jurisdiction where the property embraced in it was  
situated, how, 107 note (x).

and probate may be granted to all the executors mentioned  
in the several instruments, 108 note (x).

entry in an account-book, 109.

date not material, valid though it has no date or a wrong  
one, 104 note (z<sup>1</sup>).

WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*FORM AND MANNER OF MAKING — *continued.*

language, 108-110.

wishes and requests sufficient, 108 and note (y).

general doctrine as to what precatory words create a trust, 108 note (y).

term "will" is imperative, 108 note (y).

instructions, 70-72, 108, 109.

sent in a letter, 109 note (z).

will made by interrogatories, 46, 108.

"Heads of a will," "Plan of a will," "Intended will," 109.

"Memorandum of an intended will," 110 note (f), 355, 356.

"I intend this as a sketch of my will which I intend making on my return home," 109.

"head of instruction to my solicitor, J. Lee, to add to my will the codicil following," 109.

may be in any tongue, 110.

how foreign language to be regarded, 110.

effect of translation in probate, 566.

materials, 111.

will written in pencil, 111 and note (o).

rules as to alterations in pencil, 111.

will written on slate, held not valid, 111 note (o).

who may be the writer, 111, 112.

legatee, 111 and note (s), 115.

attorney legatee, 111 and notes (s) and (t), 112.

true doctrine as to proof of wills when so prepared, 111 and notes (s) and (t), 112, 113.

## PUBLICATION OF,

none requisite by the old law, 84.

nor under the new statute of wills, 67, 89, 90. See tit. *Publication*.

## CONTENTS OF,

knowledge of, by testator formerly presumed on proof of signature, 350, 351. But see 351 note (x).

effect given to, in proof of capacity, 26 note (l), 360 note (p).

may show unsoundness of mind, 37 note (m), 360 note (n).

unjust and injudicious, imprudent and unaccountable provisions, not sufficient of themselves to avoid wills, 37 note (m), 360 note (n).

REVOCATION OF, 124 *et seq.*

revocable nature of a will, 6 note (a), 124.

whether mutual wills revocable, 124-126. See tit. *Mutual Wills*.

WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*REVOCATION OF — *continued.*

- not affected by subsequent insanity of testator, 19 note (r), 191.
- where legatee has been induced by will to render services to the testator, 126.
- enactments in 1 Vict. c. 26, respecting, 127, 128.
  - in the statute of frauds, 127 note (h<sup>1</sup>).
  - very generally adopted in the American States, 127 note (h<sup>1</sup>).
- can be revoked only in manner provided by statute, 127 note (h<sup>1</sup>).
- 1. *By destruction, burning, tearing, cancellation, or obliteration,*
  - to what cases the stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, extends, 129.
  - every act done to a will after January 1, 1848, must be in compliance with the statute, though the will be made before that date, 129.
  - at what time alterations without date shall be presumed to have been made, 130–132 and notes (p), (q), (s), and (v).
  - declarations of testator when admissible to rebut presumption, 130 note (q), 359.
  - effect of material and unexplained alteration, made after execution, 130 note (m).
  - what shall amount to, if done before the 1st January, 1838, 132.
    - done after that date, 133–139.
    - cancellation by striking through with a pen not sufficient, 134 note (b).
    - drawing lines across a will may be explained not to mean revocation, 147 note (t<sup>1</sup>).
    - so tearing or even destruction, 148 note (u).
    - formalities necessary for, 144.
    - there must be some actual revoking act, however slight, 137 note (f<sup>1</sup>).
  - inchoate act, 139 and note (p).
  - of part of will, 141, 142.
  - consequences of complete obliteration, 144.
  - consequences of complete obliteration with unattested substitution, 145.
    - the acts prescribed for revocation must be done *animo revocandi*, 140 note (p), 147, 148 note (u).
    - mutilation or destruction of will by testator who has become insane, 147 and note (r).
    - doctrine of dependent relative revocations, 147 *et seq.*
    - when the second gift fails by incapacity of legatee, 153.



WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*REVOCATION OF — *continued.*1. *By destruction, burning, tearing, &c. — continued.*

what shall amount to if, &c. — *continued.*

consequences of complete obliteration, &c. — *continued.*

when destruction of will is of codicil, 153 and note (q).

of one of duplicate wills, 154–156.

of a codicil, is so of an interlineation in a will to same effect, 156, 157.

of a will, is so of a signed draft, 157.

destruction of an old letter supposing it to be the will, with intent to destroy the will, 137 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

will directed and believed to be destroyed, but fraudulently preserved entire, 137 note (h<sup>1</sup>).

proof of mutilation, &c. 157.

if it be found mutilated in testator's custody, the presumption is that he mutilated it *animo revocandi*, 157.

so if it cannot be found, 157 and note (e<sup>1</sup>).

this presumption may be rebutted, by clear and satisfactory evidence, 157 note (f).

what is such evidence, 177 note (f).

so where the testator has the custody of one of two duplicates, 158.

a will unduly cancelled or destroyed, may be established, 153 note (o<sup>1</sup>), 158.

so if cancelled by testator, when *non compos*, 42, 147 note (r), 153, 381.

how admitted to probate, 381. See *tit. Alterations, Interlineations, Obliterations.*

2. *By a subsequent testamentary disposition, 159 et seq.*

a formal will by a subsequent informal one, 160.

*secus*, if made after January 1, 1838, 160.

the latter need not mention the revocation, 160.

the statute of frauds did not prevent a revocation by mere instructions for a subsequent will, 160, 161.

parol evidence that a lost will had been executed subsequently to one found on the death of testator, 161.

but the contents of the lost will must be known, 161.

not effected, unless the two are inconsistent, 162.

or unless the latter be a substantive will, 163.

effect of appointment of executors, 163 and note (e).

a paper disposing of the estate, without making an executor, revokes a prior will though appointing executors, 164.

WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*REVOCATION OF — *continued.*2. *By a subsequent testamentary disposition — continued.*

effect of express revocatory clause in subsequent will, 162  
note (a<sup>1</sup>), 164.

not effected by mere fact of a later will existing, 164, 165  
note (i).

though it be found to be different if particulars unknown,  
165.

a later will of which nothing is known but that it was  
headed "last will," no revocation, 165, 166.

two inconsistent wills of the same date, 166.

without any date, 166.

of different dates, but latter incomplete and  
not duly executed, 172 note (k<sup>1</sup>).

two inconsistent clauses in a will, 167.

revocation of prior disposition, by a subsequent *substituted*  
one, 167.

by a subsequent *unfinished* disposition, 168-171.

but the strong presumption of law adverse thereto,  
171.

*secus*, if made after January 1, 1838, 168, 169.

in what cases instructions are revoked by a subsequent  
will, 168.

not affected by a subsequent disposition made under a mis-  
take of fact, 153 and note (o<sup>1</sup>), 168, 172-176.

will not revoked by subsequent will or codicil made under  
undue influence, 147 note (r).

whether on the revocation of a later will, a former uncanceled  
will is revived, 178-180.

it is a question of intention to be collected, from all the cir-  
cumstances of the case, 179.

will executing a power revoked by subsequent will, 176, 177.

a codicil referring to a will destroyed by testator does not  
revoke a later will, 182.

3. *By express revocation*, 182.

must be in writing, under 1 Vict. c. 26, in respect of wills  
made after January 1, 1838, 182.

distinction between "a will or codicil" and "some  
writing," 127.

must be in writing by statute of *frauda*, 182.

but may be by written instructions never read over to  
testator, or allowed by him, 161, 183.

declaration of *intention* to revoke, though in writing, insuffi-  
cient, *sed quære*, 183, 184 and note (e).

intention to revoke must be as clear as the devise, 185,  
and notes (k) and (l).

WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*REVOCATION OF — *continued.*3. *By express revocation — continued.*

- different parts of a will, or a will and codicil are to be reconciled if possible, 185 note (l).
- subservient to another disposition, which fails, inoperative, 185, 186.
- effect of general revocatory clause, 185.
- a codicil intending to revive a destroyed will no revocation of an intermediate will, 186, 224.
- a will once revoked by written declaration on cancellation, cannot be republished by parol, 127 note (r<sup>1</sup>), 148 note (x<sup>1</sup>), 205.
- whether probate necessary, of revoking instrument, 127 note (i).
- an instrument purporting to be a will, with clause of revocation, cannot be treated as a revocation only, without probate, 181 note (s<sup>2</sup>), 186 note (n).
- an instrument intended as a will, but failing of effect as such in consequence of imperfection in its structure, or for want of due execution, cannot be set up for the purpose of revoking a former will, 186 note (n).
- but a second will duly executed, revoking a former will, will have that effect, although the second will fails of effect by reason of incapacity in the devisee, or other matter, *dehors* the will, 186 note (n).
- expression in codicil, of intent to alter will in one particular, excludes implication of intent to alter in another, 186 note (p).
- 4. *By republication of prior will*, 186, 205, 208, 216.  
distinction in this respect between wills and codicils, 217.
- 5. *By marriage or other presumptive or implied revocation*, 187 *et seq.*  
after January 1838, no will to be revoked by presumption on ground of alteration in circumstances (1 Vict. c. 26), 187, 201.  
otherwise in Massachusetts, 187 note (r<sup>1</sup>).  
as to New York, 187 note (r<sup>1</sup>).
- to what cases the statute extends, 203.
- not affected by lapse of time, 187.
- nor increase of testator's substance, 187 and note (i).
- nor removal by death of the testator's bounty, 188.
- nor death of testator's wife, and one of his children, and birth of another contemplated in his will, 187 note (i).
- nor insanity of testator continued forty years from soon after making will, 187 note (i).

WILL—*continued.*

OF PERSONAL PROPERTY—*continued.*

REVOCATION OF—*continued.*

5. *By marriage, &c.*—*continued.*

contingent will, 188–190, 188 note (*x*), 190 note (*f*).  
a paper of testamentary instructions may be abandoned, 191.  
not affected by subsequent insanity, 20 note (*r*), 191.

case of mutual wills, 191.

will forgotten by testator, 191.

by marriage of testator or testatrix after January 1, 1838  
(1 Vict. c. 26), 201, 202.

not effected by testator's marriage before the statute, 191.  
*secus*, of a testatrix, 191, 192 and note (*o*). See, also,  
62, 63.

as to this in Rhode Island, 192  
note (*n*<sup>1</sup>).

in Vermont, 202 note (*u*).

in New York, 202 note  
(*u*<sup>1</sup>).

the will does not revive by her surviving him, 62,  
63, 192 and note (*o*).

of married woman, made under a power, not revoked by her  
surviving her husband, 192.

marriage and birth of child, a revocation, before stat. 1 Vict.  
c. 26, 192.

as to this in Pennsylvania, 192 note (*r*<sup>1</sup>).

so of a posthumous child, 194.

the principle of this revocation, 194–196 and notes.

parol evidence to rebut the implication, 196.

of will in favor of children by former marriage, 196.

*secus*, of a will of lands, 196.

the will does not revive by the death of the issue, 196, 197.

no revocation, unless the wife or children *wholly* unpro-  
vided for, 198–201 and note (*s*).

whether the birth of issue, and subsequent second mar-  
riage, a revocation, 198.

marriage alone, or birth of child alone. does not revoke, 196.

but the birth of children, with other circumstances, may  
revoke, 198 and note (*k*<sup>1</sup>), 201 note (*s*).

provisions in statutes of American States for posthumous  
children, and children born after making of will, in lifetime  
of the father, 201 note (*s*).

also for children and their representatives, for whom no  
provision is made in will, 201 note (*s*).

unless omission was intentional, as to which parol evi-  
dence is admissible, the burden of proof being on  
party alleging omission to be by design, 201 note (*s*).

WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*REVOCATION OF — *continued.*5. *By marriage, &c. — continued.*

every will made after January 1, 1838, revoked by marriage of testator or testatrix (1 Vict. c. 26), 201, 202.

marriage of a man, domiciled in this country and naturalized, with deceased wife's sister, no revocation, 201 note (t).

implied revocation by ademption, 204.

the will not so revoked, if executor appointed, 204.

implied revocation of will of real estate, by alienation, partial or total, 204 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

by such alteration in testator's circumstances that it becomes impossible to execute any part of his will, 204 note (c<sup>1</sup>).

## REPUBLICATION OF,

made before January 1, 1838 (1 Vict. c. 26), 205.

how a will may be republished, 205, 206.

express republication, what is, 206 note (h).

implied republication, what is, 206 note (h).

formalities required, 206 note (h).

by unattested codicil, or other writing, 205, 206.

the codicil need not be annexed to or confirm the will, 211.

when annexation important, 212.

codicil referring inaccurately to will may republish it, 212.

also a contingent or conditional codicil, 190, 213.

not if a contrary intention appear on the face of it, 213.

a codicil confirming a will does not necessarily make it operate as if made at the date of the codicil, 212 note (a).

nor does it republish any part of the will inconsistent with the codicil, 212 note (a).

codicil will refer to last in date of several wills, if no express date is mentioned, 213 note (d).

reference in codicil to *last* will, how construed, 213 note (d).

to a will of a particular date, and not to codicil of subsequent date, effect of, in regard to republication, 213 note (f).

by parol acts and declarations, 207 *et seq.*

mere conservation, 207.

WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*REPUBLICATION OF — *continued.*

made before January 1, 1838 (1 Vict. c. 26) — *continued.*

by parol acts and declarations — *continued.*

instances of parol republication, 207, 208.

what does not amount to, 208-210.

republication of an obliterated or cancelled will, 210, 211.

effect of 1 Vict. c. 26, 214-216.

codicil showing intent to revive will, 215 and note (*l*).

must be shown by contents of codicil, 215 note (*l*).

consequences of republication, 216-225.

the will is a new will of the date of the republication, 216 and note (*m*<sup>1</sup>).

therefore revokes all wills prior to republication, 217.

distinction between wills and codicils, 217 and note (*p*).

adeemed legacies not revived, 217 note (*p*), 1331, 1332.

the operation of the will extended to after acquired property, 218, 219.

*secus*, as to a will in the exercise of a power, *semble*, 219-220.

distinction between wills of personalty and realty, 220.

removed by 1 Vict. c. 26, 220.

will shall be construed to speak from death of testator unless contrary intention appear by it, 221 and note (*d*), 222 note (*e*), 1438.

contrary intention, how it must appear, 221 note (*d*), 1438.

provisions of statutes in American States regarding this subject, 221 note (*d*).

of will partly and afterwards wholly revoked (1 Vict. c. 26), 218.

a will republished, &c. by any codicil shall be deemed to have been made at the time it shall be republished, &c. (1 Vict. c. 26, s. 34), 222.

cases on construction of this section, 222, 223.

a codicil may give effect to unattested alterations or additions to will, 223.

or may render valid a previous unexecuted will, 224.

effect of codicil showing intention to revive a destroyed will, 186, 224.

by a widow, of a will made before or during coverture, 55, 225.

by an infant, after attaining majority, 16, 17, 225.

by a person once insane, who has recovered his mind, 225.

WILL — *continued.*OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — *continued.*REPUBLICATION OF — *continued.*

consequences of republication — *continued.*

by a person who has executed a will under undue influence,  
when he is relieved of the influence, 225 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>).

PROBATE OF, 288 *et seq.* See tit. *Probate.*

the will must be proved in the probate court, 288.

that is the only court where its validity can be established or  
disputed, 288, 292, 293 and note (*s*).

evidence secondary of contents of will, 2004.

when pronounced against in a suit between the executor and  
next of kin, cannot be set up again by legatee, 338.

disputed will ought to be lodged in the registry, 315.

is the only legal evidence of the will, 293.

what it ascertains and establishes, 293 note (*u*<sup>1</sup>) and (*u*<sup>2</sup>).

deposit of, by testator in his lifetime, 318.

five years after the death of the testator, 320.

of foreigners and British subjects resident abroad, 360 *et seq.*

if the deceased left no personalty in this country, his will need  
not be proved here, 360.

but if a foreign executor has to bring a suit here, there must  
be administration *ad litem*, 361, 2019.

a will made abroad, of property here, must be proved here, 362.

Scotch confirmation produced in probate court, and sealed there  
to have the effect of probate, 363.

Irish probates to be of like force as English probates, being re-  
sealed, 364.

will made here, of property in the colonies, 365.

the grant of probate here does not extend to property abroad,  
though the rights of the executor do, if the testator was domi-  
ciled here, 364.

the validity of the will of a foreigner depends on the law of the  
place of domicile, 366 and note (*m*).

so of the will of a British subject domiciled out of England  
before stat. 24 & 25 Vict. c. 114, 367-369.

*secus*, as to a resident, 372.

practice to follow the grant of the court of domicile, 369.

wills made by British subjects out of the kingdom to be admitted  
if made according to the law of the place where made, or where  
testator was domiciled, or had domicile of origin, stat. 24 & 25  
Vict. c. 114, 374.

wills made by British subjects in this kingdom to be admitted if  
made according to local law, 374.

change of domicile not to invalidate will, 374.

an executor may sue here in respect of foreign assets without a  
foreign probate, 365.

**WILL — continued.**

**OF PERSONAL PROPERTY — continued.**

**PROBATE OF — continued.**

- of will under power, when necessary, 391.
- of lost will, 378.
- of will cancelled by fraud or by testator while *non compos*, or become illegible, 379.
- of will concealed or suppressed by executor, 312.
- of will directing certain sealed packets to be delivered by the executors unopened as directed, 392.
- citation of holder of will to produce it in the probate court, 312.
  - he cannot dispute the jurisdiction, 314.
- duplicate wills and all testamentary papers must be brought into the probate court, if required, 315.
- how far original will may be referred to, to correct inaccuracies in, 566-570.
- one place of deposit for all wills under the control of the court of probate, 315.
  - when and how they can be got out, 315.

**CONSTRUCTION OF,**

- jurisdiction of courts of equity, 294, 2006.
- general rules of construction, 1078 *et seq.* See *tit. Construction, Legacy.*
- must be according to the law of the place where the testator died domiciled, 1088. See, also, 366 *et seq.*

**OF LAND,**

- until the statute of wills, could not be made, 1.
- strictly not a testament, but an appointment, 6.
  - termed *ultima voluntas*, and not *testamentum*, 6 note (b).
- no after purchased lands could pass by, 6, 220.
  - true reason of this, 6 note (c).
  - stat. 1 Vict. c. 26, 6 note (d), 220.
- revocation of, by alteration of the estate devised, 220.
- effect of republication of, 218, 219.
- ought not to be proved in the probate court, 389.
  - unless where executors are appointed, 389.
- heir must be cited when will is proved in solemn form affecting real estate, 341, 563, 564 *et seq.*

**MIXED WILL OF LAND AND GOODS,**

- must be proved entirely in the probate court, 389.
  - the probate no evidence to prove the devise of the land, 389.
    - unless the will is undisputed, 316, 390 note (a).
- when it is doubtful whether the property is all freehold, probate ought to be granted, 391.
- mode of getting the will itself out of the registry of the probate court for the purposes of evidence, 389, 390.



**WILL** — *continued.***MIXED WILL OF LAND AND GOODS** — *continued.*

when probate will not be granted of an unexecuted paper disposing of real and personal estate of later date to a regularly executed will, 170.

**WILLS ACT** (1 Vict. c. 26). See tit. *Preface.*

**WISHES,**

of testator expressed in a will, when they create a trust, 108 note (y).

**WITNESSES.** See tits. *Attestation, Evidence, Opinions, Experts.*

subscribing,

effect of the evidence of, as to circumstances of the attestation, 101–103 and note (w).

will not to be defeated through want of memory of attesting witnesses as to the circumstances of attestation, 103 note (w).

speaking to testator's insanity, not conclusive, 37, 347 and note (k).

denying the execution of will may be contradicted, 347 note (k). See, too, 130, 359, 360.

may be excepted to, by party producing them, 347.

not necessary for a will of personalty, if made before January 1, 1831, 84.

consequence of there being an attestation clause, and no witnesses, 85.

two necessary for all wills made on or after January 1, 1838, 86.

number of, required for wills in the different American States, 67 note (b<sup>1</sup>)

none required to holograph wills in some of the states, 67 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

will may be proved on the testimony of one of the witnesses if there is no contest, 67 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

requisites, as to witnesses to wills, in Pennsylvania, 67 note (b<sup>1</sup>).

if competent, at time of execution of will, subsequent incompetency will not prevent probate and allowance of it, 67 note (b<sup>1</sup>), 87 note (i<sup>3</sup>), 1054 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

rule of competency in Massachusetts, 87 note (i<sup>3</sup>).

wife not competent to a will which contains a devise to her husband, 87 note (i<sup>3</sup>).

nor to her husband's will, 87 note (i<sup>3</sup>).

heir-at-law, who is disinherited, is competent attesting witness in support of will, 87 note (i<sup>3</sup>).

incompetency from want of age, 87 note (i<sup>3</sup>).

as to competency of executors, 87 note (i<sup>3</sup>).

"credible," what are, 87 note (i<sup>3</sup>), 1054 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

object and purpose of requiring witnesses to wills, 346 note (d<sup>2</sup>), 1054 note (o<sup>1</sup>).

what is sufficient acknowledgment of the testator's signature to, 87–90, 88, note (n).

WITNESSES — *continued.*subscribing — *continued.*

the attestation must be after the testator's signature, in the presence of both, 90-93, 88 note (*n*).

not necessary that testator should expressly request witnesses to attest, 88 note (*n*).

another person may make the request in testator's presence, 88 note (*n*).

as to New York, 89 note (*q*).

must both attest the will simultaneously, 90.

in the presence of the testator, but not of each other, 67 note (*b*<sup>1</sup>), 90 and note (*s*).

what is his presence, 91-93, 91 note (*z*<sup>1</sup>), 92 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).

where the testator is blind, 93 and note (*h*).

witnesses must sign in presence of each other in Vermont, 90 note (*t*).

may attest by mark, or a guided hand, but not by seal, 93, 94 and notes (*n*) and (*o*).

one witness cannot subscribe for another, 94 note (*o*).

acknowledgment of his signature by witness not sufficient attestation, 91 note (*x*), 95 and note (*q*).

whether good attestation, if witnesses sign before testator, 91 note (*x*).

signature by description or mark without name, 95 and note (*t*).

of a will written on several sheets, 96, 97.

in what part they must sign, 95, 96.

legacies to, 328, 1052 *et seq.*

when not to be found, 347, search to be made for, 347 note (*f*<sup>1</sup>).

when a witness is also a legatee, 328 and note (*o*).

incompetent, 328.

does not lose his legacy, 328, 1052.

*secus*, if will made after January 1, 1838 (stat. 1 Vict. c. 26), 86 note (*i*<sup>1</sup>), 1053.

in testamentary causes,

one witness supported by adminicular proof sufficient by law of ecclesiastical courts, 342.

competency of, by what law to be decided before probate act, 344.

and parties under 6 & 7 Vict. c. 85, 14 & 15 Vict. c. 99, and 16 & 17 Vict. c. 83, 345.

may be summoned and examined *viva voce*, 17 & 18 Vict. c. 47, 345.

rules of evidence in common law courts, to be observed in probate court, 21 & 22 Vict. c. 77, s. 33, 344, 346 note (*d*<sup>8</sup>).

neglecting to appear as,

action for, does not survive against executors, 1728.

## WORK AND LABOR,

by executor, as such, he may declare for, 879.

action for, does not lie against executor, 1775, 1939.

**WRECKED GOODS,**

recoverable by executor within a year and a day after seizure thereof as wreck, 845.

**WRITING.** See tit. *Handwriting*.

"some writing," distinction between, and "a will or codicil," in s. 20 of the wills act, 127.

**WRITS OF ATTACHMENT,**

and executions in Massachusetts, how they run, 1937 note (i).

service, in action against several executors or administrators, 1937 note (l).

**Y.****YORK,**

city of,

excepted out of stat. 4 W. & M. as to testamentary power over personalty, 4.

exception taken away by stat. 2 & 3 Ann. 4, 5.

province of,

stat. 4 & 5 W. & M. c. 2, enabling persons resident therein to dispose all their personalty, 3, 4.

custom of,

never attached upon any part of the province that was not so *temp.* Hen. 8, 5.

does not extend to Chester, 4, 5, 1528.

distribution under, 1527 *et seq.* See tit. *Distribution*.

controlled by custom of London, 1532.

**YOUNGER CHILD,**

when considered an eldest, 1094, 1095.

when an eldest considered, 1096, 1097.

# TABLE OF CASES.

[The paging of the seventh and last English edition is preserved at the bottom of the pages, and it is that to which this table refers.]

A.		PAGE		PAGE
Aaron v. Aaron		212	Adam v. Buckland	474
Abbey v. Christy		89	v. Shaw	498
Abbis v. Winter	999, 1029, 1035, 1038		v. The Inhabitants of Bristol	795, 1885
Abbot v. Coburn		362, 550	Adams, In the Goods of	111, 329
v. Massie		1281	v. Adams	311, 312, 430, 534, 540, 763, 980, 1095, 1211, 1444, 1502, 1900, 1931, 2006, 2057, 2060
Abbott v. Abbott		545, 1479	v. Barry	2029
v. Bradstreet		1124	v. Beck	1095
v. Jenkins		1206	v. Brackett	691, 759, 760, 1693, 1712, 1717
v. Middleton		1078, 1085	v. Bush	1096
v. Parfitt	881, 1658, 1873		v. Butts	1788, 1876
v. Peters		69	v. Campbell	1869, 1871
v. Winchester		752	v. Chaplin	93, 94
Abbott's Appeal		666	v. Cheverel	877
Abby v. Gilford		2043	v. Clarke	1088
Abel v. Love		404	v. Claxton	1818
Abercrombie v. Abercrombie		1158	v. Cole	869
v. Hickman		1761	v. Field	73, 77, 87, 88
v. Sheldon	529, 1951		v. Gale	1845
v. Skinner		1805	v. Gibney	1751
Abingdon v. Tyler		880	v. Gillespie	1219, 1459
Abington v. North Bridgewater		1518, 1519, 1520	v. Green	660
Abney v. Miller	208, 1328, 1329, 1332		v. Johnson	539
Abraham v. Wilkins		75	v. Jones	318, 1151, 1178
Abram v. Cunningham		586, 1311	v. Lavender	864, 1298
Abrey v. Newman		1464, 1513	v. Meyrick	1710
Acaster v. Anderson		977	v. Nicholas	772
Acey v. Simpson		1364	v. Norris	87, 347
Acherly v. Vernon		212, 1428	v. Pierce	1376
Acheson v. McCombs		1376	v. Roberts	1095, 1232, 1248
Ackerly v. Oldham		438	v. Savage	1887
v. Parkinson		438	v. Spaulding	1091, 1844
Ackerman v. Emott		938, 1851	Adams's Trusts, Re	1263
v. Vreeland		1176	Adamson, In the Goods of	240
Ackland v. Lutley		689, 690	v. Armitage	1193
v. Pring	680, 689, 1755, 1937		Adarene v. Marlow	1801
Ackroyd v. Smithson		663, 1216	Addams v. Ferick	1344, 1765
Ackworth v. Ackworth		1300	v. Heffernan	1427
Ackland v. Lewis		1062	Addecott v. Addecott	1360
Acraman v. Corbett		754	Addington v. Wilson	37, 360
Acton v. Acton		1160, 1169, 1371	Addison v. Busk	1229
v. White		61	Addy v. Grix	93
Adair v. Shaw	233, 234, 499, 1730, 1739, 1840, 2005, 2013, 2034			

Adie v. Cornwell	1084, 1378	Alger v. Parrott	1130
Adlum's Estate	1664	Allan v. Backhouse	820
Adnam v. Cole	1071, 1073, 1291	v. Dundas	549, 551
Adsit v. Adsit	1445	v. Gott	1707
Advocate General v. Ramsay's Trustees	1630	v. Hill	84
Advocate General v. Smith	1629	Allanssn v. Clitherow	1081
Adye v. Fenilleteau	1809, 1843	Allardice v. Onslow	1521
Agnew v. Pope	185	Allboro v. Lowry	654
Agricultural Bank v. Stambaugh	991	Allday v. Fletcher	1419
Aguilar v. Aguilar	61	Allen, In the Goods of	90, 445
Aiken v. Bridgman	1868, 1871, 1876	Ex parte	1803
v. Dunlap	991	v. Allen 547, 1153, 1154, 1702, 1894	
v. Morse	1679, 1915, 1946, 1951	v. Anderson	786, 1444
Aikin v. Weckerly	21, 40, 342	v. Ashley School Fund	650
Aikman v. Aikman	1519	v. Bradshaw	57
Ailway v. Burrows	2000	v. Burton	534
Aimes v. Skillern	1463	v. Callow	1291
Ainslie v. Radcliffe	991, 1004	v. Coster	1410
Aird, In the Goods of	245	v. Cowan	774
Aislabie v. Rice	1264, 1278	v. Crosland	1425, 1429
Aistrop v. Aistrop	1084	v. Dundas 561, 571, 588, 589, 590,	
Aitchison v. Dixon	856, 1518		1894
Aitkin v. Ford	442	v. Eldridge	749
Aiton v. Brooks	1271	v. Farrington	1946
Akely v. Akely	1801	v. Farthing	1261
Akerman v. Gybbon	979	v. Gaffins	1783
Akers v. Akers	1108	v. Harlan	1730
v. Dupuy	473	v. Harrison	6, 221
Albee v. Carpenter	872, 1106	v. Hopkins	587
Albert v. Winn	752, 753	v. Jackson	1275
Albin v. Lord	749	v. Kimball	261
Alchin's Trusts	1076	v. Lyons	1153
Alcock v. Sloper	1163, 1177, 1394	v. McPherson 45, 50, 377, 549, 552,	
Alden v. Stebbins	817, 1946		555, 558
Alder v. Beall	1513	v. Maddock	100
v. Lawless	1463	v. Manning	71
v. Park	1034	v. Markle	1112
Aldis v. Burdick	659, 1887, 1888	v. Matthews	1980
Aldrich, Appellant	292	v. Pass	1081
v. Campbell	1876	v. Pray	1445
v. Cooper	767, 1714, 1716, 1717	v. Ranntree	1884
v. Gaskill	1153, 1202	v. Simons	650
v. Howard	796, 1734	v. Story	1911
Aldridge v. Wallscourt	1707	v. The Public Administrator	360
v. Westbrook	1715	v. Thorp	1124, 1131, 1135
Alexander, In the Goods of	373	v. Vanmeter	1241
v. Alexander	185, 1295	v. Webster	1100, 1101
v. Banfield	650	v. Wells	1743
v. Brame	1061, 1069	v. Whittaker	1230
v. Fox	1451	v. Wilkins	412, 871, 1489
v. Gresham, Lady	1660, 1682	Allen's Estate, Re	1261, 1263
v. Lane	269	Will, Re	1901
v. Mawman	1936	Allerton v. Lang	776
v. Mercer	534	Alleyn v. Alleyn	1297
v. Mullins	2007	Allhusen v. Whitthell	1176
v. Sizer	1781	Alling v. Munson	1801
v. Stewart	471	Allison v. Allison 74, 87, 88, 104, 147,	
v. Walch	1092	v. Davidson	1033
v. Williams	1377, 1379	Allnut, In the Goods of	98
v. Worthington	1693	Allum v. Fryer	655
Alford v. Alford	219, 417	All Souls' College v. Condrington	1437
v. Earle	207, 219, 1332	Allsup v. Allsup	362
Alfriend v. Daniel	264	Almack v. Horn	1090
Alger v. Colwell	529, 974	Almes v. Almes	437, 476
		Almosnino, In the Goods of	100, 240

Almy v. Crapo	650, 817	Anderson v. Miller	918, 1820
Alpaugh's Will, In re	88	v. Turner	655
Alsager v. Rowley	2020	v. Ward	52
Alsop's Appeal	1217	v. Welch	352
v. Bell	2012	v. Wilson	1875
v. Mather	461, 916, 918, 1791	Anderton v. Cooke	1710
v. Russell	1081, 1084, 1248, 1462	Andree v. Ward	1458
Alston v. Alston	1868	Andress v. Weller	39, 40, 41, 359, 1153
v. Andrew	1311	Andrew v. Andrew	1204, 1219, 1396, 1476
v. Jackson	958	v. Clark	1479
v. Newcomer	1517	v. Gallison	269, 270
v. Trollope	1803	v. Lord	1263
Alt v. Gregory	185	v. Motley	133, 191
Altemus, Jacob, case of	410	v. Pearce	1751
Alton v. Harrison	755	v. Rigley	938
v. Medlicot	1161, 1367	v. Wrigley	933, 937
v. Midland Railway Co.	799	Andrew's Will, In re	1106
Altree v. Hordern	890	Andrews, In re	66, 1112
Alvord v. Marsh	269, 270, 272, 273, 631, 633, 1670	v. Andrews	1860
Ambler v. Lindsay	259, 261, 264, 265, 276, 278	v. Avery	550
v. Macon	1454	v. Bishop	1694, 1697, 1909
Ambrose v. Ambrose	1533	v. Boyd	1193
v. Kerrison	1788	v. Brown	666
American Academy of Arts and Sciences v. Harvard College	1070, 1071, 1072	v. Brumfield	1178
American Asylum v. Phoenix	1070	v. Carr	364
American Bible Society v. Pratt	1153, 1199, 1202	v. Dobson	1199
American Board of Commis. for Foreign Missions' Appeal	539, 915, 916	v. Doolittle	980
Ames v. Armstrong	245, 529, 949, 1820, 1821, 1822	v. Emmot	1707
v. Chew	853	v. Fulham	1269
v. Downing	1658, 1791, 1843, 1966	v. Hall	1498, 1500
v. Parkinson	1815	v. Herriott	371
v. Ward	16	v. Hobson	1843
Amis v. Witt	779	v. Hunneman	1372, 1374 1377, 1378, 1387
Amiss, In the Goods of	76, 80, 94	v. Jones	752
Ammon's Appeal	376, 594, 1679, 1860	v. Murphy	440
Amory v. Fellows	87	v. New York Bible and Prayer Book Soc.	1070, 1204, 1224
Amos v. Campbell	2028	v. Partington	1088, 1091, 1411
Amoskeag Mfg. Co. v. Barnes	1803, 1946	v. Sealy	1897
Amphlett v. Parke	664, 1391	v. Sparhawk	935, 2029
Amsink v. Barklay	2022	v. Tucker	575, 980, 1679
Amson v. Harris	1112	v. Turner	216
Ancaster v. Mayer	1021, 1693, 1700, 1701, 1705	Androscoggin Bank v. Kimball	115, 351
Anderson, In the Goods of	417	Androvin v. Poilblanc	226, 240, 1478
v. Anderson	100, 1053, 1517, 1519, 1520, 1522, 1860	Andruss v. Tucker	1679
v. Baker	1801	Anewalt's Appeal	658
v. Caunter	2018	Angell v. Dawson	1811
v. Dawson	1128	Angermann v. Ford	1285
v. Dwyer	836, 1427	Angerstein v. Martin	1387, 1391, 1392
v. Felton	1224, 1235, 1243	Ankerstein v. Clarke	922, 967
v. Green	650	Ann, The case of	1517
v. Gregg	362	Annable v. Patch	1080, 1088, 1091, 1092, 1093, 1094
v. Guichard	499	Annand v. Honeywood	1540, 1542
v. Laneuville	1517	Annin v. Annin	754
v. McGowan*	654	v. Van Doren	1909, 2038
v. Martindale	1865	Anon. 1 And. 117, pl. 164	963
		2 And. 157, pl. 87	1030
		1 Atk. 491	1348, 1451
		3 Atk. 17	45
		3 Atk. 726	844
		Brownl. 47	486
		Bunb. 294	828
		1 Cas. t. Lee, 625	517

Anon. 1 Ch. Cas. 265	382	Anon. 2 Salk. 519	1776
2 Ch. Cas. 5	1694	3 Salk. 21	255, 389, 416
2 Ch. Cas. 54	1041	1 Show. 408	452, 561
2 Ch. Cas. 208	1656	2 Show. 77	822
Comb. 342	969	2 Show. 48	207
Comberb. 451	681, 877	2 Sid. 114	251, 435
Comyn, 150	561, 589	2 Sim. & St. 424	1917
Cro. Eliz. 9	1084	4 Sim. 359	2045
Cro. Eliz. 61	716, 718	Skin. 143	919
Cro. Jac. 219	1740	1 Stra. 525	416
Dyer, 2 a, pl. 3	1661	1 Str. 552	435
Dyer, 3 b	250	Style, 74	450
Dyer, 23 b	911, 912, 946	7 T. R. 32, note (a)	892
Dyer, 32 a	1033	1 Ventr. 239	905, 906
Dyer, 66 a	914	1 Ventr. 258	1451
Dyer, 142 a	822	2 Ventr. 317	422
Dyer, 160 b	285	2 Ventr. 362	919
Dyer, 187 b	646	1 Vern. 94	1451
Dyer, 210 a	1820	1 Vern. 162	1451
Dyer, 256 a	258	2 Vern. 133	1684
Dyer, 270 b	931	2 Vern. 199	1397
Dyer, 221 a	1729	2 Vern. 405	1684
Dyer, 277 b	1381	2 Vern. 707	864
Dyer, 316 a	717, 718	2 Ves. sen. 489	2022
Dyer, 339 a	587	2 Ves. sen. 661	1427
Dyer, 362 a	817	12 Ves. 4	237
Dyer, 371 b	954	12 Ves. 5	2032
1 Freem. 28, pl. 22	303	18 Ves. 258	1016
1 Freem. 150	492, 493	v. Adams	649, 913
1 Freem. 287 255, 343, 473, 489, 495	382	v. Wood	2032
1 Freem. 313	435	Ansell, Ex parte	1052
1 Freem. 372	2029	Ansley v. Baker	257
2 Freem. 22, pl. 20	1315	Anstice, In re	1261
2 Freem. 52	1528	v. Brown	1052
2 Freem. 85	711	Anstruther v. Chalmer	373, 439, 515
2 Freem. 210	486, 488	Anthony v. Negley	534
Godb. 104	1048	v. Peay	658
Godb. 149, pl. 194	579	Anthrobis v. Nepean	74
Hetley, 48	885	Aplyn v. Brewer	1823, 1833
1 Leon. 316	954	App v. Driesbach	1931, 1942
2 Leon. 220, pl. 276	700	Apperson v. Cottrell	346, 381
3 Leon. 32	1800	Apple v. Allen	751
3 Leon. 53	486, 488, 489	Applebee, In the Goods of	151
3 Leon. 278	1048	Appleby v. Appleby	482
4 Leon. 236, pl. 362	705	Appleton v. Doily	930
4 Leon. 240	855	v. Rowley	1466
Ley, 70	1121	Appreece v. Appreece	1161, 1366
1 Madd. 36	2042	Apaden v. Nixon	1929
4 Madd. 373	436	Arbery v. Ashe	37
5 Mod. 376	270, 271	Archer, In the Goods of	89
12 Mod. 441	942	v. Jegon	1465
Moore, 44 pl. 136	642	v. Mosse	45, 549
Moore, 54	16	v. Slater	561
Mos. 5	874	v. Smith	1078
Owen, 3	489	Arcularius v. Geisenheimer	1078
Owen, 35	708	v. Sweet	569
Owen, 49	1178	Arden v. Sullivan	1761
1 P. Wms. 267	691	Ards v. Watkin	820
Proph. 5	1546	Arline v. Miller	959
Prec. Chanc. 537	2007	Armitage v. Baldwin	1014
9 Price, 210	892	v. Metcalf	1694, 1799
1 Salk. 8	1843	v. Williams	1091, 1513
1 Salk. 155	966	Armstrong, Estate of	1860
1 Salk. 282	261, 267	v. Armstrong	77, 1081, 1094, 1185, 1219, 1463, 1474
1 Salk. 313			

<b>Armstrong v. Burnet</b>	1764	<b>Ashling v. Knowles</b>	1211, 1219, 1260
<i>v. Clavering</i>	1149	<b>Ashmead's Appeal</b>	2062
<i>v. Cooper</i>	1796	<b>Ashmore, In re</b>	88
<i>v. Johnson</i>	1974	<i>In the Goods of</i>	94
<i>v. Miller</i>	1844	<b>Ashmore's Trusts, In re</b>	1235
<i>v. Moran</i>	1086, 1113, 1221	<b>Ashton, In the Goods of</b>	88
<i>v. Pratt</i>	1876	<i>v. Adamson</i>	820
<b>Arndt v. Arndt</b>	11, 67	<i>v. Ashton</i>	1159, 1165, 1322
<i>v. Linney</i>	1844	<i>v. Atlantic Bank</i>	935
<b>Arnett v. Arnett</b>	121	<i>v. Dawson</i>	776, 783
<b>Arnold v. Arnold</b>	269, 1179, 1183, 1288, 1361, 1433, 1640	<i>v. Langdale</i>	1061, 1071
<i>v. Barron</i>	1502	<i>v. McDougall</i>	750
<i>v. Bidgood</i>	965	<i>v. Pointer</i>	1896
<i>v. Blencoe</i>	284	<i>v. Poynter</i>	1896
<i>v. Blencowe</i>	256, 472	<i>v. Sherman</i>	1788, 1962
<i>v. Brown</i>	938	<b>Ashton's Estate</b>	1844
<i>v. Buffum</i>	1086	<b>Ashurst v. Ashurst</b>	1798
<i>v. Chapman</i>	1060, 1063, 1075	<i>v. Eyre</i>	2013
<i>v. Congreve</i>	1263	<b>Ashwell's Will, Re</b>	2030
<i>v. Delachaise</i>	1193	<b>Ashworth v. Carleton</b>	117
<i>v. Earle</i>	16	<i>v. Kittridge</i>	360
<i>v. Ennis</i>	1163, 1392	<i>v. Ryal</i>	1869
<i>v. Gilbert</i>	658, 1108	<b>Askew v. Thompson</b>	1424
<i>v. Lanier</i>	793, 1734	<b>Aspden v. Nixon</b>	362
<i>v. Preston</i>	1102	<b>Aspinall v. Bourne</b>	1062
<i>v. Sabin</i>	416, 417, 440, 1901	<i>v. Wake</i>	1872
<i>v. Skeale</i>	718	<b>Aspinwall v. Duckworth</b>	1217
<b>Arnold's Estate, Re</b>	1257	<i>v. The Queen's Proctor</i>	430
<i>Trusts, In re</i>	1086, 1466	<i>v. Wake</i>	880
<b>Arnoux v. Steinbrenner</b>	1895	<b>Aspland v. Watte</b>	2023
<b>Arrow v. Mellish</b>	1513	<b>Astley v. Powis</b>	1005
<b>Arrowsmith's Trusts, In re</b>	8, 185, 1227, 1263	<b>Aston's Estate</b>	1853
<b>Arthur, In the Goods of</b>	80, 81	<b>Astor, In the Goods of</b>	97, 107
<i>v. Hughes</i>	1260, 2018	<i>v. Hoyt</i>	1657
<b>Arundel v. Springer</b>	1734	<b>Astree v. Flanagan</b>	1502
<b>Arundell v. Arundell</b>	1403	<b>Atcherley v. Du Moulin</b>	1243
<b>Arundell, Lady, v. Phipps</b>	755	<i>v. Vernon</i>	659, 1202
<b>Asay v. Hooker</b>	75	<b>Atcheson v. Atcheson</b>	1094, 1414, 1419, 1463, 1618
<i>v. Hoover</i>	1178	<i>v. Robertson</i>	1860
<b>Ash, In the Goods of</b>	97	<b>Atchison v. Smith</b>	1876
<i>v. Ash</i>	198, 1119	<b>Atherton v. Corliss</b>	1344, 1444, 1445
<b>Ashbee v. Pidduck</b>	1741	<i>v. Crowther</i>	1129, 1133
<b>Ashbrook v. Ryan</b>	778	<b>Atkins, In the Goods of</b>	79
<b>Ashburn v. Ashburn</b>	654, 2006	<i>v. Allen</i>	1395
<b>Ashburner v. M'Guire</b>	1162, 1168, 1320, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1326	<i>v. Gardner</i>	843
<b>Ashburnham v. Ashburnham</b>	1370	<i>v. Hill</i>	1782, 1931
<i>v. Bradshaw</i>	175	<i>v. Hiscocks</i>	1228
<i>v. Thompson</i>	1844, 1845, 2035	<i>v. Humphrey</i>	1756, 1775, 1939, 1945
<b>Ashbury, Ex parte</b>	730	<i>v. Kron</i>	1268
<b>Ashby v. Ashby</b>	856, 1676, 1710, 1772, 1773, 1774	<i>v. McCormick</i>	426
<i>v. James</i>	1947	<i>v. Sanger</i>	1894
<i>v. Palmer</i>	658	<i>v. Sawyer</i>	1974
<b>Ashcroft v. Little</b>	750	<i>v. Smith</i>	365, 429
<b>Ashley, Appellant</b>	1502	<i>v. Tredgold</i>	1944, 1945, 1946
<i>Ex parte</i>	994	<i>v. Waterson</i>	1536
<i>v. Baillie</i>	538	<b>Atkinson v. Baker</b>	682
<i>v. Childers</i>	1318	<i>v. Barnard</i>	417, 463, 464
<i>v. Palmer</i>	658	<i>v. Christian</i>	237, 531
<i>v. Pocock</i>	999, 1033	<i>v. Cummins</i>	1153
<i>v. Waugh</i>	214	<i>v. Grey</i>	1021
		<i>v. Henshaw</i>	499
		<i>v. Hutchinson</i>	1088
		<i>v. Lindsey</i>	1515



Atkinson v. Rogers	362	Atty. Gen. v. Hancock	1616, 1632
v. Turner	1231	v. Harley	1060, 1198, 1291
v. Webb	1298	v. Heartwell	216
Atter v. Atkinson	350	v. Heelis	1071
Atty. Gen. v. Abdy	1588	v. Henniker	1626
v. Alford	1849, 1850	v. Hertford, Lord	1584, 1627, 1628
v. Aspinall	1072, 1551	v. Hickman	1056
v. Bacchus	1618	v. Higgins	620
v. Baker	1588, 1593	v. Higham	1806, 1815
v. Barkham	1710	v. Hinxman	1075
v. Baxter	1057	v. Hodgson	1064, 1068
v. Beatson	1639	v. Holbrook	1205, 1373, 1619, 1633
v. Bouwens	289, 361, 430, 618, 621, 1661, 1662, 1663	v. Holford	1630
v. Bovill	1070	v. Hooker	1474
v. Bowles	1063	v. Hope	364, 619, 620, 626
v. Bowyer	1074	v. Hudson	1367
v. Brackenbury	1566, 1625	v. Hull	1062
v. Braybrook	1593, 1803	v. Hungerford	1077
v. Bright	1106, 1111	v. Hurst	1720
v. Brunning	622, 657, 1683, 1685	v. Hutton	1057
v. Burnie	1551, 1618	v. Hyde	1064, 1070
v. Bury	1437	v. Ironmonger's Co.	1076
v. Caldwell	1061	v. Jackson	1584, 1630, 1640, 1641, 1645
v. Carlisle	1072	v. Johnstone	1460
v. Cavendish	1619	v. Jolly	1070, 1076
v. Cecil	1588, 1593, 1594	v. Jones 7, 10, 104, 1620, 1621, 1630	
v. Chapman	2050	v. Kent	1517
v. Chester, Bishop of	1063	v. Kohler	434, 439, 1515
v. Clapham	1155	v. Lawes	1057, 1071, 1072, 1076, 2041
v. Clarke	1070, 1150	v. Lilford, Lord	1598
v. Clergy Society	1070	v. Littledale	1588, 1594, 1596
v. Cock	1057	v. Lloyd	174
v. Cockerell	361, 1639	v. London, City of	1072
v. Comber	1070	v. Lonsdale, Earl of	1070, 1071
v. Cornthwaite	2007	v. Loscombe	1616
v. Crispin	1090, 1093, 1240	v. Malkin	1131, 1135, 1144
v. Davies	1063, 1064, 1075	v. Mangles	658, 1629
v. Day	1763	v. Manners	1612, 1613, 1614
v. Dimond	364, 618, 1661	v. Meeting House in Federal St.	1057
v. Downing	212	v. Merrimac Man'f'g Co.	1268
v. Drummond	1057, 1153	v. Metcalfe	1629
v. Dublin	1057	v. Meyrick	1061
v. Dunn	1518, 1642	v. Mill	1074
v. Eastlake	1070, 1071	v. Moore	1070
v. Exeter Corporation of	1070	v. Munby	1063, 1074, 1563
v. Fishmonger's Co.	1055	v. Murdock	1057
v. Fitzgerald	1517, 1561, 1635	v. Napier	1521, 1643
v. Fitzjohn	1596	v. Nash	1064, 1070, 1635
v. Fletcher	1463	v. Old South Soc. in Boston	1070
v. Floyer	1588	v. Parnther	22, 23, 27
v. Forbes	1640	v. Partington	413, 550, 616, 872
v. Fowler	1057, 1071	v. Pearce	1070
v. Gardner	1588, 1593, 1594	v. Pearson	1057
v. Gell	1588	v. Pickard	1584, 1626, 1627
v. George	1290, 1293	v. Potter	1383
v. Giles	1557, 1562	v. Pottinger	1517
v. Gladstone	1057, 1076	v. Poulden	1361
v. Goddard	1068	v. Power	1056
v. Goulding	1075		
v. Graves	1060		
v. Grote	1153		
v. Guise	1058		
v. Haberdasher's Co.	1073		
v. Hallett	1598		

## 2429

Atty. Gen.	v. Price	1070, 1116	Austin v. Cambridge Parish	6
	v. Randall	1825	v. Gage	1656
	v. Robins	1366, 1369	v. Henshaw	1036
	v. Rowe	1517	v. Halsey	1280
	v. Ruper	1052	v. Munro	1781
	v. Rushton	1594	v. Munro	1872, 1874
	v. Ryder	549	v. Munroe	785
	v. St. John's Hospital	1057	v. Willes	347
	v. Sefton, Lord	1597	v. Wilson	937
	v. Shore	1057	Austre v. Audley	251
	v. Shrewsbury, Corpora-		Auther v. Auther	1164, 1359
	tion of	1070, 1072	Autrey v. Autrey	1502
	v. Sibthorp	1593, 1603	Avelyn v. Knipe	652
	v. Simcox	1629	Avelyn v. Ward	1164, 1269, 1324
	v. Smythe	1588	Avera v. Lloyd	1106
	v. Smythies	836	Avery v. Chappel	359
	v. Southgate	1712	v. Cheslyn	748
	v. Staff	624, 626, 627	v. Osborne	2035
	v. Stepney	1072, 1075	v. Pixley	10, 138
	v. Stewart	1074, 1076	v. Tryingham	1057
	v. Sutton	1081	Avison v. Simpson	1120, 1456
	v. Tancred	1074	Awdley v. Awdley	667
	v. Todd	1056, 1058	Axers v. Musselman	1875, 1887
	v. Tomkins	1060, 1480	Axford, In re	19
	v. Tyndall	1720	Ayer v. Wilson	1740
	v. Upton	1589	Aylers Trust, In re	1099
	v. Virginia College	1071	Ayliff v. Ayliff	581
	v. Vivian	1057	Aylliffe v. Murray	1853
	v. Wahlstaff	1543	Ayling, In the Goods of	330
	v. Wahlstatt	1519	Aylmer v. Hide	1753
	v. Wallace	1070, 1072	Aylworth v. Fenn	1936
	v. Wansay	1057	Aynsley v. Wordsworth	828, 838
	v. Ward	175	Aynsworth v. Pratchett	1429
	v. Weedon	1052	Ayre v. Ayre	267
	v. Weymouth	1060	Ayres v. Clinefelter	281
	v. Whitchurch	1075	v. Weed	275
	v. Whorwood	1074	Ayrey v. Hill	2241
	v. Wilkinson	1070	Ayton v. Ayton	1091
	v. Williams	1062, 1064, 1070		
	v. Wilson	1057		
	v. Wood	1613, 1614	B.	
	v. Wyndham	1629		
	v. Wynford	1558	Baal v. Morgner	750
	v. Yelverton	1588	Babb v. Reed	1076
Attree v. Attree		1079	Babbitt v. Bowen	630
Attridge, In the Goods of		102	Babcock v. Eckler	753, 754
Attwater v. Attwater		1165, 1266	Babineau v. Le Blanc	121
Atwater v. Bruce		2057	Babington v. Greenwood	1534, 1536
Atwell v. Helme		529	Bacheider v. Fisk	1748
v. Milton		1740	Bachelor v. Bean	1748
Atwood v. R. L. Agricultural Bank		2023	Backhouse v. Hunter	977
Aubin v. Daly		810	v. Jett	1679
Auburn Theological Seminary v. Cal-			Bacon, Appellant	292
houn		37, 89, 102, 103, 342	v. Bacon	1818, 1820, 1825
Audsley v. Horn		1093, 1094, 1106	v. Bryant	412
Aughtie v. Aughtie		289	v. Clark	1809, 1820
Aurand v. Wilt		74, 75, 122	v. Crandon	907, 1801
Anstee v. Nelms		1155	v. Fairman	2057
Ansten, In the Goods of		118	v. Garrett	1502
v. Graham		37	v. Holt	1413
v. Halsey		1719	v. Parker	257, 262
v. Willes		102	v. Pomeroy	1792, 1803, 1946, 2023
Auster v. Powell		1504	v. Simpson	405, 632
Austin v. Austin		531	Badart's Trusts, In re	1643
v. Bristol		1211	Baddeley v. Curwen	2020

Badden v. Earl of Pembroke	660	Bainway v. Cobb	728, 730, 744, 747
Baden v. Lord Pembroke	847	Baird v. Baird	1080, 1084, 1088
Badenach, In the Goods of	277	Baird's case	1748
Badger v. Gregory	1466	Baker v. Baker	1113, 1360, 1403, 1513
v. Jones	539, 961	v. Batt	113
v. Kelley	1946	v. Bayldon	1112, 1418
Badillo v. Tio	376	v. Brooks	532, 536
Badrick v. Stephens	1169	v. Carter	2035
v. Stevens	1321, 1323	v. Comins	1153
Bafield v. Collard	808	v. Copenbarger	658, 665, 666
Baggett v. Meux	751	v. Davis	730, 736
Bagley v. Blackman	89	v. Dening	75, 93
v. Mollard	1099	v. Dobyns	380
Bagnell v. Downing	104	v. Farmer	1359, 1364
Bagot v. Bagot	1699	v. Gibson	1123, 1462
v. Legge	2041	v. Gostling	819
v. Oughton	1700	v. Hall	863, 1460
Bagster v. Fackerell	665	v. Hanbury	1207, 1219
v. Winter	1417	v. Horn	736
Bague v. Dumergue	1360, 1403	v. Lewis	26
Bagwell v. Dry	1216, 1462, 1478	v. Martin	1286
v. Elliott	206	v. Pender	1085
v. Jamison	927	v. Read	2023
Bailey, In the Goods of	64, 82, 415	v. Red	847
v. Bailey	107, 293, 366, 549, 1078, 1081, 1082, 1084, 1108, 1109	v. Smith	362
v. Boulton	1649	v. Sutton	1068, 1072, 1076
v. Boyce	1445, 1446	v. Williams	771
v. Bristowe	980	v. Wimpee	1743
v. Brown	654	Baker's case	1941
v. Freeman	1777, 1784	Bakewell v. Tagart	2040
v. Gatton	1889	Balance v. Frisby	1887
v. Gould	1808, 2035	Balch v. Hallet	1393, 1395
v. Hammond	1420	v. Smith	66
v. Lloyd	1017	v. Symes	313
v. Miller	257, 261	Balchen v. Scott	1832
v. Myrick	345	Balcom v. Haynes	1097, 1108, 1216
v. Parkes	358	Baldwin, In the Goods of	224
v. Paterson	1108	v. Baldwin	865, 1068, 1151
v. Shannonhouse	2028	v. Buford	461
v. Stewart	907	v. Carter	749
v. Stiles	103, 346, 380	v. Church	947, 1942
v. Strong	2057	v. Dearborn	539
v. Wagner	1092	v. Johnson	913
v. Wright	1119	v. Karver	1093
Bailey's case	1316	v. Parker	21, 46, 49, 50
Baillie v. Jackson	1248	v. Peach	2029
Baillie v. Baillie	1515, 1517, 1914	v. Porter	1287
v. Butterfield	551, 1290	v. Rogers	1124
v. Edwards	1878	v. Standish	529, 546
Baily, In the Goods of	247	v. State	25, 346
v. Duncan	1445	v. Thompson	907
v. Ekins	1018, 1684	v. Timmins	650, 687
v. Ploughman	1041	Baldwyn v. Johnson	1472
Bain v. Lescher	1094, 1216	Balfour v. Scott	37, 1515
v. Sadler	1041, 1684	Bail v. Beatty	61
v. White Haven &c. Railway Co.	366, 371, 1088	v. Harris	1691
Bainbridge v. Bainbridge	1197	v. Mannin	40
Bainbridge v. Bainbridge	360	v. Montgomery	1416
v. Blair	1854	v. Oliver	498, 499, 500
Baine v. Pine	915	v. Smith	1497
Baines v. Dixon	1080	Ballantyne v. Turner	1084
v. McGee	932, 936	Ballard v. Ballard	1092, 1094, 1204, 1221
Bainton v. Ward	1686	v. Carter	204
		v. Connors	1513
		v. Kilpatrick	2005

## TABLE OF CASES.

2431

Balliett's Appeal	204, 1106	Bareford v. Stuckey	789, 1865
Ballingall, In the Goods of	544	Barham v. Clarendon	661
Balls v. Westwood	1731	v. Lord Thanet	1699, 1700, 1701
Bally v. Wells	1749	Barheydt v. Barheydt	1087
Balm v. Balm	1090	Barkaloo v. Emerick	588
Balmain v. Shore	1241	Barker, Ex parte	229, 574, 575
Balsh v. Hyham	1020	In the Goods of	440, 448, 467
Baltimore & Ohio R. R. v. Glenn	370	In re	1589
v. Ritchie	800	v. Baker	1896
Bamfield v. Popham	1088	v. Barker	1084, 1791
v. Wyndham	1710	v. Belknap	1801
Bamford v. Baron	755	v. Bell	139, 205, 216
v. Lord	1106	v. Birch	2020
Bancroft v. Andrews	452, 473, 1913	v. Buttress	1744
v. Bancroft	1370	v. Cocks	1261, 1263
v. Curtis	754	v. Comins	37, 346, 357, 359
v. Ives	201	v. Dee	1982
Bane v. Wick	763	v. Dumeres	1034
Bane's case	1778	v. Hill	659
Bank v. Gibbs	991	v. Koneman	753
Bank of Alabama v. Hooks	1984	v. Lea	1217
Bank of Charleston v. Inglesby	650	v. McFerran	352, 549
Bank of England case of	666	v. Martin	2028
v. Lunn	812	v. May	657, 1682, 1684
v. Moffatt	812	v. Pearce	1090
v. Morrice	1021, 1959	v. Rayner	1321, 1323
v. Parsons	812	v. Talcot	919, 1800
Bank of Lansingburg v. Crary	710	v. Wardle	2037
Bank of Pennsylvania v. Haldaman	539	v. Woods	1239, 1241
v. Haldiman	1874	v. Young	1085
v. Jacobs	1940	Barksdale v. Barksdale	127, 153, 186, 187
Bank of Port Gibson v. Baugh	951	v. Cobb	461, 544
Bank of Troy v. Topping	1776, 1780, 1785	v. Gilliat	1153, 1646, 1649
Bankhead v. Hubbard	237	v. Hopkins	148
Banks v. Goodfellow	33, 34, 39, 40	Barkworth v. Young	1222
v. Phelan	1458, 1459	Barling v. Bishop	754
v. Sladen	1435	Barlow v. Bateman	1119
v. Thornton	132	v. Bishop	849
v. Wilkes	1820	v. Grant	1287, 1413
Bannatyne v. Bannatyne	25, 37	v. Orde	1099, 1101
Banner v. Lowe	837	Barnaby v. Tassall	1182, 1219
Banta v. Moore	431, 1664	Barnard v. Bailey	1267
Baptist Association v. Hart	1076, 1077	v. Ford	1414
Baptist Church v. Robbarts	127, 133, 157	v. Gregory	261, 263
Baracliff v. Griscom	1953	v. Harrington	1728
Barasien v. Odum	257	v. Higdon	1895
Barber, In re	1124	v. Palmer	307
In the Goods of	379	v. Pumfrett	1375, 1780, 1783
v. Barber	1218, 1282, 1430, 1466,	Barnawell v. Smith	1803
1467, 2023		Barnehurst v. Yelverton	593
v. Converse	575	Barnes v. Allen	889
v. Fox	1780	v. Ballard	1217
v. Slade	857	v. Crowe	207, 212
v. Taylor	1498	v. Greenzabach	1103
Barbour v. Robertson	541	v. Hudson	1221
Barclay, Ex parte	727, 736	v. Jarnagin	1935, 1936, 1937
v. Marshall	983	v. Patch	1125, 1513
v. Maskelyne	176, 1070	v. Rowley	1195
v. Wainwright	1291	v. Shannnonhouse	1216
Barclay's Estate	1159, 1368	v. Syester	74
Bard v. Nevin	1731	v. Vincent	57, 58, 59
Barden, In the Goods of	389	Barnes's case	954
Bardwell v. Bardwell	1710	Barnealey v. Powell	45, 553, 555, 557
v. Purrington	17	Barnet v. Barnet	1257
Barefoot v. Barefoot	405	v. Sheffield	1404

Barnett v. Barnett	1088	Barton v. Rice	1502
v. Blake	1243, 1421	v. Robins	19, 111, 351, 377
v. Guildford, Earl of	635	v. Rock	499, 500
v. Sheffield	2053	v. Tattersall	995, 2027
v. Tugwell	1101, 1204	Barton's case	1378
Barnewell v. Sutherland	1883	Barton's Will, In the Trusts of	875
Barney v. Chittenden	549	Barwick v. Foster	822
v. Saunders	1844, 1846, 1849, 1851, 1853	v. Mullings	110, 355, 375
Barnitz's Appeal	1098	Basan v. Brandon	1169, 1325
Barnum v. Farthing	755	Bascom v. Albertson	1070, 1088
Barnwell v. Ironmonger	1696, 1720, 2041	Bash v. Bash	1769
Baron v. Berkley	1838	Baskcomb v. Harrison	338
Barr v. Carter	255	Baskett, In the Goods of	79
v. Fewkes	1303	Baskin v. Baskin	88, 89, 1844
v. Graybill	103	Baskin's Appeal	1108
v. Jackson	550	Bason v. Hugbart	991
Barrack v. McCulloch	754	Bass v. Chambliss	1670
Barraclough v. Greenhow	565, 566	v. Heard	989
Barrell, In re	1862	Basset v. Granger	1108
v. Joy	1861	v. Percival	1699
Barrett v. Barrett	362, 364	Bassett v. Miller	417
v. Buxton	41	Bassett's Estate, In re	1085, 1455
v. Williford	1519	Bastard v. Stukely	1378
v. Wright	1199	Bastin v. Watts	1219
Barrings v. Willing	1827	Batard v. Hawes	1748, 1773
Barrington v. Tristram	1091, 1423	Bate v. Hooper	1392
Barron v. Barney	257	v. Payne	1619, 1646
v. Barron	684, 757, 758, 857	v. Robins	653, 1805
v. Greenough	552	v. Scales	1848
v. Vandvert	920, 1871	Bateman, In the Goods of	447
Barrow v. Barrow	71, 154, 1414	v. Bateman	1693
v. Methold	1155	v. Grey	1091
v. Wade	1974	v. Hotchkin	1696, 1718
Barrows v. Downs	371	v. Margerison	405
Barra v. Fewkes	108, 1478, 1482	v. Pennington	85, 111, 189
Barrus v. Boulbac	1871	v. Roden	1710
v. Kirkland	1078, 1193	Bates v. Bates	40
Barry v. Boyle	350	v. Dandy	691
v. Butlin	112, 115, 352	v. Hillenan	1088
v. Harding	1192, 1333, 1712	v. Holeman	154, 179
v. Robinson	1930	v. Kempton	5, 777
v. Rush	1776, 1784	v. Mackinley	1394
v. Stanton	940	v. Vary	1860
Barrymore v. Taylor	2000	v. Webb	1276
Barsalow v. Wright	1946	Bath v. Abney	1769
Barstow v. Goodwin	1112, 1113	Bathe v. Bank of England	60, 922
Bartholomew, In re	1232	Bathgate, In the Goods of	71
v. Henley	105, 167	Bathurst v. De la Touche	1048
v. May	1695	v. De la Zouch	1048
Bartleman v. Murchison	1086	Bataford v. Kebbell	1236, 1242, 1243
Bartlet v. King	1068, 1070, 1072, 1076, 1085	Batson v. Lindegreen	1684
Bartlett v. Dimond	1935	v. Murrell	1803
v. Gillard	1298	Batt v. Cuthbertson	856
v. Janeway	872	Battle v. Speight	6, 209, 211, 221
v. Wood	730	Batteley v. Windle	1478
Barton v. Barton	1267	Batten, In the Goods of	79, 330, 331
v. Bigelow	1224, 1239, 1241	v. Earnley	237, 1427
v. Boucher	1684	Batterbee v. Farrington	754
v. Cooke	1162, 1287, 1288, 1371	Battersea, In the Goods of	97
v. Croxall	204	Batton v. Allen	1502
v. Hassard	1843	v. Watson	42, 50
v. Irasburgh	1519	Baud v. Fardell	1814
v. King	1458	Baugh v. Read	1335
		Baugh v. Wilkins	1937
		Baum, Succession of	1817

Baxter & Bale's case	283, 580, 587	Beard v. Beard	204, 389, 1529
Baxter v. Abbott	20, 21, 346, 352	v. Dedolph	758
v. Buck	880	Beardmore v. Gregory	309
v. Burfield	814, 1725, 1765	Bearpark v. Hutchinson	681, 683, 841
v. Davis	592	Beasley v. Mott	534
v. Dyer	204	Beasney's Trusts, In re	318
v. Gray	1769	Beason v. State	1519
v. Losh	1216	Beattie v. Abercrombie	650, 950, 2006
v. Penniman	1803, 1881, 1882	Beatty v. Clark	1861
Baxter's Appeal	377	v. Kurtz	1073
Bay v. Cook	1502	v. Montgomery	1224, 1261
Bayard, In the Goods of	255, 468	v. Tate	1776
v. Atkins	1225, 1236	Beaty v. Beaty	85, 86
Bayldon v. Bayldon	353, 357	Beaubien v. Ciotte	21, 40, 51, 342, 346, 359, 360
Bayle v. Mayne	74	Beauchamp v. Lord Hardwicke	107
Bayley v. Bailey	6, 89, 127, 181, 184, 366, 374	v. Lord Huntley	1917
v. Bishop	1195	Beaufort v. Collier	750, 751
v. Snelham	1101	v. Dundonald	1436
Bayley's Settlement, In re	1094, 1095	Beaufoy's Estate, Re	1163
Baylis, In the Goods of	248	Beaumont v. Fell	1154, 1155
v. Sayer	102	v. Keim	180
Bayliss v. Bayliss	763	v. Oliveira	1071, 1720
Bayly v. Bayly	1928	v. Perkins	348
v. Murin	822	v. Squire	1275, 1280
Baynard v. Simmons	898	v. Thorp	754
v. Wooley	1392	Beaumont's case	1961
Bayne, In the Goods of	255	Trusts, In re	1068
Bayner v. Robertson	261	Beavan, In the Goods of	144, 145
Baynes v. Harrison	443	v. Lord Hastings	264
v. Prevost	1240	v. Countess of Oxford	1001
Beach v. Clarke	103	Beave v. Yerby	88
v. Jersey	1088, 1153	Beaver v. Nowell	1110
v. Natar	1911	Beavors v. Winn	1500
v. Norton	1747, 1900, 2057	Bebb v. Beckwith	1211, 1219
Beachcroft v. Beachcroft	1101	Bebbe, Ex parte	662
Beake v. Kent	1961	Beck v. Burn	1232
Beaks's Estate, In re	779	v. McGillis	204, 1188, 1321, 1323, 1325
Beal v. Crafton	1423, 1424	v. Redbow	737
v. Simpson	491, 492	Beck's case	592
Beale v. Beale	1097	Beckham v. De Saussure	1114
v. Blake	1335	Beckett v. Howe	91, 103
v. Commonwealth	534	Beckford v. Beckford	1540
v. Hall	1875	v. Farnecott	206
v. Symonds	1692	v. Tobin	1425
Beales v. Crisford	1094, 1125, 1188	Beckley v. Dorington	2020
v. Spencer	750	Beckton v. Barton	1261, 1334
Beall v. Blake	1170, 1323	Beckwith v. Bullen	1877
v. Cunningham	97, 224	v. Butler	1498
v. Deale	1086	Bective v. Hodgson	663, 665
v. Fox	1076	Beddoe v. Wadsworth	802
v. Mann	111, 350	Bedel v. Sherman	1871
v. Hilliary	1796, 1911	Bedell v. Carl	777, 781
v. Holmes	1087	v. Constable	254, 695, 814
v. New Mexico	534, 539, 540, 541, 915	v. Keethley	2006
v. Schley	1441, 1442	Bedford, In the Goods of	147
Beals v. Peck	2003	Bedloe v. Homer	1081
Beaman v. Elliott	362, 1929	Beebee v. Beebee	975
Beamond v. Long	486, 644, 967	Beech v. Keep	1770
Bean v. Bumpus	404, 448	Beecher v. Buckingham	650
v. Farnam	1784, 1786, 1801	v. Crouse	650
v. Moulton	817	Beeching v. Morphew	1804
Beane v. Yerby	87, 89	Beecker v. Beecker	1931
Beanland v. Halliwell	1392	Beckman v. People	1076
Bearblock v. Read	486		

Beeler v. Dunn	1929	Bennet v. Batchelor	1462, 1480
Bear, In the Goods of	254, 382, 471	v. Davis	1153, 1199
v. Beer	832	v. Marshall	1154
v. Tapp	2035	v. Vade	45
Beers v. Strohecker	1909	Bennett v. Atkins	2035
Beeson v. Beeson	938, 1427, 1843	v. Bennett	1106
v. Burton	674	v. Blaine	1062
Beeston v. Booth	1369, 1370	v. Brooks	65
Beeton v. Darkin	1512	v. Dawson	1946
Beetson, In the Goods of	167	v. Hayter	1076
Beggia, In the Goods of	429, 438	v. Ives	257, 265, 988
Begley v. Cook	1464, 1513	v. Jackson	121
Behrle v. Sherman	540	v. Lytton	1344
Beiber's Appeal	480	v. Marshall	1199
Belk v. Slack	1273	v. Merriman	1211
Belknap v. Belknap	1404	v. Overing	533, 534, 536
Bell, In the Goods of	382, 412	v. Pierce	1786
v. Alexander	2016	v. Russell	534, 540, 541
v. Andrews	1876	v. Robinson	1275, 1276
v. Armstrong	336, 337, 339	v. Strong	1258
v. Bell	836, 1307	v. Wood	2040
v. Bolton	1962	v. Woolfolk	1742
v. Buckmaster	21	Bennett's Trusts, In re	1211, 1243
v. Clark	37, 347	Benoist v. Murrin	45, 332
v. Fothergill	157	Benson v. Bellasis	1536
v. Hewitt	1769	v. Benson	132, 134, 139, 147, 751
v. Jackson	1288	v. Ela	666
v. Kennedy	1519, 1520, 1521	v. Maude	1387, 1424
v. King	2005	v. Whittam	1126, 1189
v. Newman	1743	Bent v. Bent	759
v. Phyn	1085, 1088	v. Cullen	1194, 1195
v. Raisbeck	336	Bent's Appeal	45, 1075, 1153
v. Scammon	1106	Bentham v. Wiltshire	655
v. Speight	631, 915	Bentley v. Bentley	1965
v. Timiswood	428	v. Meech	1085
Bellamy v. Alden	2060	v. Oldfield	1712
v. Bellamy	1843	v. Shreve	1846
Bellasis v. Uthwatt	1298, 1301	Benyon v. Benyon	1290, 1292
Bell County v. Alexander	1258	v. Gollins	234
Bellew v. Bellew	497	v. Maddison	1240
v. Juckleden	1977	Beraud, Succession of	442
Bellinger v. Ford	308	Bereblock v. Read	1004
Bellingham v. Clark	1874	Beresford v. Hobson	1419
Bellows v. Goodall	267	Berger v. Duff	944, 951
Bells v. Nichols	361	v. Hill	377
v. Robinson	650, 1983	Bergey's Appeal	759
Belt v. Slack	1465	Bergin v. McFarland	650, 817
Beltzhoover v. Costen	1086	Berisford v. Woodroff	1722
Belvidere v. Rochfort	1701	Berkeley v. Swineburne	1091, 1257
Bemis v. Bemis	1946	Bernal v. Bernal	371, 1113, 1518
v. Stearns	1500	Bernard v. Marstell	108
Bempde v. Johnson	1517	v. Minshall	53, 1459
Benbow, In the Goods of	335	v. Montague	1112, 1227
Bench v. Biles	1717	Bernes v. Weissner	991, 1004
Benchley v. Chapin	1310	Bernasconi v. Adams	1151
Bender v. Dietrick	1088	v. Atkinson	1153
Bender's Appeal	1513	Berrington v. Evans	2025
Bending v. Bending	1447	Berry v. Berry	1098
Benfield v. Solomons	2020	v. Briant	1466
Benge v. Swaine	1998	v. Hamilton	47, 238, 449
Benham's Trusts, In re	318	v. Parkes	1800
Benjamin v. Degroot	631, 1946, 1950	v. Taunton	940
v. Taylor	1938, 1940	v. Usher	662, 1315
Benn v. Dixon	1112, 1163, 1177, 1219, 1263	Berryhitt's Appeal	1853
		Berryman v. Peacock	709

Bertie v. Chesterfield	1768	Billingshurst v. Spearman	680, 1756
v. Falkland	1153, 1199	v. Vickers	41, 42, 113, 350,
Bertrand v. Elder	753		352, 377
Berwick v. Andrews	790, 791, 792, 1729,	v. Walker	1699
	1987, 1989, 1990	Billings v. Sandom	1260, 1263
Berwick-upon-Tweed, Mayor of, v.		Billingslea v. Henry	1861
Murray	1847, 1849, 1850	Billingsley v. Harris	1219
Bescoby v. Pack	1192	v. Glenn	1846
Bessaub v. Noble	1084	v. Tongue	1459
Best v. Argles	856	v. Wills	1241, 1242
v. Stonehewer	1113	Billington's Appeal	1844
Bestall v. Bunbury	61	Binckes, In the Goods of	518
Bethea v. Smith	1261	Bindon, Viscountess of, case of	763
Bethel v. Moore	139, 140, 147	Binchart v. Harrison	658, 661
v. Stanhope	1668	Binford v. Bawden	1416
Bethell v. Moore	187	Bingham v. Bingham	1488
Bethun v. Dinmure	312	Binnerman v. Weaver	232, 450, 1275,
Bethune v. Kennedy	1163, 1177		1277
Bettison v. Rickards	1088	Binnington v. Harwood	1851
Betts, In the Goods of	246	Binns v. Nicholls	1716
v. Jackson	162	Bion, In the Goods of	521
v. Kimpton	872	Birch v. Baker	1322, 1324
v. Mitchell	881	v. Birch	131
Betts, S. P. v. Blackwell	1808	v. Dawson	740, 1186
Bevan, In the Goods of	455	v. Sherratt	1860
v. Atty. Gen.	1160	v. Wright	1731
Bevans v. Briscoe	715	Birchard v. Scott	1076
Beverley's case	17, 19	Bird v. Bird	39, 47
Beverleys v. Miller	1847	v. Davis	345
Bewancorne v. Carter	283	v. Hundson	1277
Bewick v. Ord	982	v. Le Fevre	1458
v. Whitfield	709	v. Luckie	1123
Bewsher v. Williams	376	v. Maybury	1234
Bianchi, In the Goods of	1519	v. Peagram	749, 757, 871
Bibb v. Thomas	136, 137	v. Ralph	1736
Bibby v. Thompson	1126	v. Relph	1737
Bibin v. Walker	107	v. Webster	1111
Bick v. Motley	1848	v. Wood	1124
Bickham v. Cruttwell	1694, 1701, 1707	Bird's Estate	809
v. Freeman	1684	Birds v. Askey	1720
Bicknell v. Page	1710	Birdsall v. Hewlett	809, 1204, 1224, 1243,
Biddle v. Biddle	1533, 1546		1252, 1424, 1426, 1708
v. Moore	1803	Birkett v. Vandercom	255
v. Wilkins	883, 1871	Birkhead v. Bowdoin	135
Biddles v. Biddles	1126	v. North	1895
Bidwell v. King	2005	Birkenhead Railway v. Cotesworth	1938
Bieber's Appeal	436, 576	Birks v. Birks	162, 166, 168, 172, 359
Biederman v. Seymour	1717	Birmingham v. Kirwan	1445
Bielefeld v. Record	1263	Birt, In the Goods of	78
Bigelow v. Bigelow	588, 1310	Birtwhistle v. Vardill	1516
v. Folger	1876	Biscoe v. Moore	1670
v. Jones	650	Bishop v. Bishop	6, 221, 375, 730, 1088
v. Morong	1098, 1112, 1486, 2038,	v. Church	1745, 1912, 1952
	2041	v. Curtis	5, 1421
v. Poole	1485, 1502	v. Elliott	727, 738
Biggar, In the Goods of	57	v. Godfrey	1005
Bigge v. Bigge	139, 148	Bissell v. Axtell	2006
Biggert v. Biggert	658, 668	Bisset v. Anthrobus	970
Biggert's Estate	658	Bitner v. Bitner	20, 30, 33, 35, 36, 37, 40
Biggleston v. Grubb	1335	Bittleston v. Clark	339
Biggs v. Andrews	658, 662	Bitzer v. Hahn	1387, 1396, 1844
v. Penn	2015	Bizzell v. Stone	1876
Bignell v. Harpur	1776, 1939	Black v. Ellis	42
Bignold v. Giles	1195	v. Jopling	153, 154
Billing v. Billing	1266	v. Whittall	980, 1498



Blackborough v. Davis	419, 422, 423, 424, 579, 589, 650, 1045, 1506, 1509, 1510	Blennon's Estate	1055
Blackford v. Davis	1863	Blethen v. Towle	739, 744
Blackham's case	562	Blewett v. Tregoning	894
Blackler v. Boott	1931, 1933	Blewitt v. Blewitt	172, 309
Blacklow v. Laws	750	- v. Roberts	1194
Blackman, In re	1152	Bligh v. Brent	666, 811
Blackmor v. Mercer	1986	- v. Lord Darnley	1662, 1720
Blackmore v. Snee	1465	Blight v. Schenck	1820
Blackshaw v. Rogers	1359, 1366	Blinkhorne v. Feast	1480
Blackstone v. Blackstone	1162, 1324	Bliss v. American Bible Society	1072
Blackstone Bank v. Davis	1266, 1267	- v. Lee	1036, 1909
Blackwell v. Bull	1126	- v. Putnam	2017
- v. Child	1326	- v. Whitney	730, 744
- v. Pennant	1149	Block v. Block	1097
Blackwood v. Damer	353, 355	Blocker v. Hosteller	346
Blades v. Free	1768	Blogg v. Johnson	1849
- v. Higgs	705	Blois v. Hereford	869
Blagge v. Miles	201	Blood v. Hayman	650, 938
Blagrove, In the Goods of	445	Bloomer v. Bloomer	192, 198, 201, 370, 774, 781
Blagrove v. Coore	1099	Bloomfield, In the Goods of	1437
- v. Hancock	1250	Blount v. Bestland	858
Blalock v. Grindle	1443	- v. Burrow	771, 775
Blaine v. Chambers	1199	- v. Hipkins	1710, 1764
Blainfield v. March	305	- v. Johnson	654
- v. Marsh	1887	Blower v. Morret	1364, 1367, 1370
Blair, Re	83	Blower's Trust, In re	1104
- v. Bromley	1747	Blue v. Marshall	1800
- v. Cincros	1887	Bluett v. Jessop	2042
- v. Snodgrass	1108	Blundell v. Chapman	1085, 1115, 1467
Blake v. Blake	2043	- v. Dunn	1101
- v. Dexter	461	- v. Gladstone	1151, 1153
- v. Gibbs	715	Blundell's Trust, In re	1056
- v. Jones dem. Blake	685	Blunden v. Barker	1536, 1540, 1544
- v. Knight	88, 101, 334	Blunden's case	822
- v. Pegram	1820, 1850, 1851, 1853, 2060	Blundivell v. Loverdell	1034
- v. Shaw	1187	Blunt v. Gee	1445, 1449
Blakelock, In the Goods of	428	Boardman v. Boardman	1160
Blakemore's Settlement, In re	1257	- v. Reed	1153, 1200
Blakesley v. Smallwood	1952	- v. Smith	1876
Blakesley's case	1748	- v. Woodman	20, 21, 32, 34, 87, 346, 352, 360
Blakey v. Blakey	47, 360	Boddicott v. Dalzeel	242, 464
Blamire v. Geldart	1229	Boddington, In the Goods of	1315
Blanchard v. Blanchard	90, 137, 1232	Boddy v. Dawes	1430
- v. Sheldon	771, 774	- v. Kent	1910
Bland v. Davison	2012, 2013	Bodger v. Arch	632
- v. Lamb	1454, 1458, 1460	Bodle v. Hulse	284, 956, 1867
- v. Williams	1245	Bodley v. McKinney	946, 951
Blandin v. Blandin	187, 204	Bodmin v. Roberts	45
Blandford v. Fackerell	1075	Body v. Hargrave	1657
Blandy v. Widmore	1492, 1495	Boell v. Schwartz	357
Blaney v. Blaney	221, 1172, 1459, 1693, 1717	Bogan v. Walter	2060
Blank's Appeal	1036	Bogardus v. Clark	549, 551
Blankard v. Galdy	1665	Bogart v. Van Velsor	1808
Blann v. Bell	1163, 1177, 1193, 1712	Bogert v. Furman	668, 689, 1510
Blassingame v. Rose	763	- v. Hertell	655, 658, 663, 946
Blasson v. Blasson	1497	Boggett v. Frier	965
Blatchford v. Woolley	1686	Boggs v. Bard	1870, 1871
Blauvelt v. Ackerman	1815, 1846	- v. Hamilton	548
Blackley's Estate	438	Bogle v. Kreitzer	1872
Blease v. Burgh	1090, 1226	Bogs v. Bard	878
Bledsoe v. Huddleston	956	Bohannon v. Walcot	148, 179
Blenkinsop v. Foster	2047	Boies v. Cuming	1248
		Boldry v. Parris	88, 92, 93

Boletho v. Hillyer	1261	Borden v. Borden	142, 432
Bolger v. Mackell	1225	Bordeaux v. Cave	1895
Bolingbroke v. Kerr	881, 917, 1873	Boreham v. Bignal	1103, 1243, 2038
Bollard v. Spencer	876	Borlase v. Borlase	27, 159
Bolles v. Nyseham	1372	Borneman v. Sidlinger	772, 774, 777, 782
v. Smith	1073, 1206, 1458, 1469	Borst v. Corey	772, 756
Bolling v. Whittle	728	Borton v. Borton	856, 1267
Bolton v. Canham	680	v. Dunbar	1457
v. Powell	537, 538, 541, 920	Bosanquet, In the Goods of	88
Bomgaux v. Bevan	1004	Boskellet v. Godolphin	1042
Bonafous v. Walker	878, 883	Bosler v. Exchange Bank	1876
Bonaparte, Napoleon, In re	318	Bosley v. Bosley	185
Bonard's Will	360	Bostick v. Elliott	1820
Bond, Ex parte	1410	Bostock v. Floyer	1817
Bond & Baile's case	997	Boston v. Boylston	362, 364, 431, 1901
Bond v. Abbott	1844	v. Fox	339
v. Allen	1951	Boston Franklinit Co. v. Condit	951
v. Barksdale	932	Bostwick v. Atkins	938
v. Bond	497, 547	Boswell, In the Goods of	384
v. Conway	847	Bothamley v. Sherson	1158, 1162, 1166
v. Faikney	251	Botholmy v. Fairfax	1006
v. Graham	361, 362, 2018	Botsford v. Krake	122
v. Green	1050, 1973	Bottoms v. Kent	48
v. Nurse	1935	Botts v. Fitzpatrick	1976
v. Seawell	97	Bouchier v. Taylor	550
v. Simmons	865	Boudinot v. Bradford	127, 147, 179
v. Ziegler	932	Boughey v. Moreton	154
Bond, Heirs of, v. Smith	1803	Boughton v. Bradley	430
Bond's Appeal	1113, 1153	v. Boughton	1443, 1712
Bone v. Cook	1206, 1211, 1219	v. James	1232
v. Sparrow	857	Boulcott v. Boulcott	185, 1216, 1217
v. Spear	109	Boulton v. Beard	1243, 1263
v. Whittle	340	v. Canon	680, 1753
Boniface v. Scott	991	v. Pitcher	1235
Bonifaut v. Greenfield	952	Boulware v. Hendricks	539
Bonithon v. Hockmore*	1859	Bound v. Gray	157
Bonner v. Bonner	1720	Bourget, In the Goods of	453
Bonney v. Ridgard	937	Bourke v. Ricketts	1432
Bonser v. Cox	1715	Bourne v. Bourne	689
v. Kinnear	108	v. Fosbrook	749
Boody v. Emerson	550	v. Meehan	1844
Boofter v. Rogers	71, 74, 122	v. Stevenson	539, 974, 975, 980,
Boogen v. Hodges	1843		1679
Booker v. Allen	1331, 1333, 1335, 1337	Bousfield v. Lawford	1307
v. Booker	758	Bouslough v. Bouslough	1679
Boon v. Cornforth	1085, 1182	Boutts v. Ellis	779, 781
v. Orr	730	Bouverie v. Bouverie	1248, 1466
Boone v. Dykes	1378	v. Maxwell	297, 543
Boosey v. Gardener	1081	Bovey v. Smith	366
Booth v. Ammerman	809, 1195, 1396,	Bowaman v. Reece	366
	1424	v. Reeve	1716
v. Booth	1088, 1228, 1796, 1820,	Bowden v. Bowden	1177
	1827	v. Henderson	318
v. Carter	1064, 1068	v. Schatzell	1743
v. Caulton	1163	Bowditch v. Andrew	1126, 1224
v. Coulton	1360, 1427	v. Solyk	1088, 1433, 2038
v. Dean	1148	Bowdoin v. Holland	261, 361, 430, 440
v. Northup	1883	Bowen v. Idley	157, 162
v. Patrick	575, 1679	v. Johnson	221
v. Vicars	1124, 1138, 1513	v. Montgomery	1805
Booth's Trusts	363	v. Scowcroft	1260
Bootle v. Blundell	1706, 1707, 1708,	v. Thomas	204
	1710	Bowerbank v. Monteiro	1780
v. Scaresbrick	1096	Bowers v. Bowers	417, 1091, 1094, 1260,
Boraston's case	1241		1263, 1465

Bowers v. Hurd	779	Bozer v. Addison	847
v. Littlewood	1497, 1511, 1512, 1513	Boysse v. Rossborough	48, 549, 564
v. Porter	222, 1092, 1093, 1108, 1225	Brackenridge v. Holland	650, 938
v. Williams	1798	Brackett v. Goddard	709
Bowes v. Bowes	213, 214	v. Hoitt	681
v. Malpas	71	v. Norton	371
Bowker v. Bowker	1225, 1243, 1254	v. Tillotson	969, 1816, 1852
v. Hunter	1480	v. Wait	754
Bowles v. Bowles	1094	Bradbury v. Morgan	1724, 1727, 1770
v. Drayton	1851	Braddon v. Farrand	1478
v. Harvey	979	Braddyll v. Jehen	193, 197
v. Smith	1215, 1216	Bradford's Will	142, 581
Bowly v. Lammott	1088	Bradford v. Boudinot	376, 594, 1860
Bowman v. Christman	37	v. Belfield	955
v. Long	1235, 1248	v. Bradford	1087
v. Woods	346, 360	v. Felder	650
v. Wooton	237, 529	v. Forbes	1694, 1946
Bowman's Appeal	1224, 1232, 1425	v. Haynes	1158, 1160, 1170
Bowsher v. Watkins	2020, 1021	v. Jones	1946
Bowyer v. Garland	1930	v. Kent	1449
Box, In re	1440, 1765	Bradish v. Gee	658
v. Barrett	1442	v. Gibbs	62
v. Box	856	Bradley, In the Goods of	132
v. Jackson	856	v. Bradley	318, 1199
Boxall v. Clutton	925	v. Commonwealth	271, 272, 529, 533
Boxley v. Stubington	56, 384, 415	v. Gibbs	185
Boyce v. Foote	1951	v. Hughes	751
Boyd v. Blankman	650, 938	v. Hunt	774, 778
v. Boyd	104, 529, 1503, 1504, 1816	v. Lowrey	1088, 1515, 1519
v. Brooks	1048	Bradly v. Heath	1780
v. Buckle	1403	Bradner v. Faulkner	1387, 1424
v. Cook	19, 93, 137, 351	Bradshaw v. Bradshaw	1152, 1154, 1199
v. Dennis	1396	v. Lancashire & Yorkshire	
v. Eby	12, 22, 23, 31, 33, 35, 37, 40, 360	R. R. Co.	797
v. Lambeth	362	v. Melling	112
v. Latham	185, 1078, 1088	v. Simpson	932, 937, 943
v. Murray	2032	v. Tasker	1056
v. Oglesby	1800	Bradstreet v. Bradstreet	292
v. Shorrock	740	v. Clarke	1084
v. Sloan	648	Bradwin v. Harpur	1088, 1155
Boydell v. M'Michael	736	Brady v. Cubitt	193, 198
Boyden v. Ward	1931	v. Dilley	1860
Boyens, In re	67	v. Shiel	1037, 1916
Boyer v. Frick	120	Bragg v. Wiseman	1751
Boyes v. Bedale	1088	Brage v. Dyer	69, 86
Boylan v. Boylan	1097	Bragner v. Langmead	998
v. Meeker	37, 51, 127, 172, 352, 359, 360	Braham v. Burchell	55, 57, 61, 62, 207, 329, 336
Boyle, In the Goods of	281	Brailsford v. Heyward	1088, 1108
v. Hamilton	1112	Brain v. Brain	204
v. Parker	1081	Brainard v. Cowdry	1153, 1162
v. Townes	881, 1874	Braithwaite v. Britain	1949, 2027
Boyles v. Overby	1728	v. Cooksey	2001
Boylston v. Carver	650, 687	v. Skinner	1933
Boynton v. Dyer	1844, 1851, 2060	v. Watts	1000
v. Peterborough & Shirley	817	Braman v. Stiles	1153
R. R. Co.	2035	Bramble v. Billups	1112
v. Richardson	768	Bramhall v. Ferris	658, 1266
Boyntun v. Boyntun	1177	Bramley v. Bramley	340
Boys v. Boys	1455	Branch v. Branch	1870
v. Morgan	1455	Branch Bank v. Donelson	575, 576
v. Williams	1153, 1199, 1295	Branch Bank at Montgomery v. Wade	639
		Brand, In the Goods of	42, 159

Brand v. Brand	360	Brewster v. McCall	6, 67, 221, 1459
Brandling v. Plumme	1000	Brewton v. Brewton	1499, 1502
Brandon v. Ashton	1091, 1266	Brice v. Stokes	1833, 1835
v. Brandon	1113, 1116, 1121	v. Wilson	1787, 1789
v. Hoggratt	1844, 1860	Brickenden v. Williams	658
v. Judah	1806	Brickhouse v. Brickhouse	1887
v. Robinson	1266	Briddon v. Page	1088
Bransby v. Grantham	643	Bridegroom v. Green	48
v. Haines	53	Briden v. Hewlett	1124
Branstrom v. Wilkinson	1234, 1430	Bridge v. Abbot	1496
Brant v. Heatig	844	v. Abbott	1137, 1141, 1142, 1146, 1209
v. King	524	v. Bridge	1770
v. Wilson	8, 127, 163, 185	v. Brown	971, 1413
Brasher v. March	1086	v. Yates	1463
Brassey v. Chalmers	955	Bridgen v. Parkes	1774
Brassington v. Ault	306, 649, 911, 1868	Bridges v. Bridges	1197
Brattle v. Converse	478	v. Hales	66
v. Gustine	478	v. Duke of Newcastle	436
Brattle Square Church v. Grant	1250, 1268	v. Smyth	894, 908, 1731, 1878
Bratton v. Clawson	730, 740	v. Wilkins	751, 1094
Bravell v. Pocock	1534	Bridgewater v. Brookfield	650
Brawley v. Wade	932	v. Gordon	1224, 1225
Braxton v. Freeman	1445	Bridgford v. Riddell	754
v. State	1820	Bridgman v. Dove	1185, 1199, 1708
v. Woods	1983	Bridgnorth, Corporation of, v. Collins	1106
Bray v. Dudgeon	413	Brien v. Smith	689
Braybroke, Lord, v. Inskip	1193	Briers v. Goddard	480, 490
Brayfield v. Brayfield	117	Brigden v. Parkes	1938, 1940
Brazeale v. Brazeale	1806	Brigg's Appeal	1966
Brazer v. Clark	1816, 1819, 1820, 1821	Briggs v. Hosford	1160, 1170, 1444
Brazier v. Clark	529	v. Penny	100, 108, 1476, 1482
v. Hudson	303	v. Rochester	430, 1519
Brearley v. Brearley	658, 1078, 1153	v. Roope	442
v. Cox	728	v. Shaw	1260, 1261
Breatwitt v. Whittaker	11	v. Upton	1132
Bree v. Perfect	1248	v. Wilson	1803, 1804
Breed v. Pratt	48, 111	Brigham v. The Executors	2033
Breeden v. Gill	343	v. Shattuck	6, 1258
Breeden v. Tugman	1238	v. Wheeler	66
Breevort v. McJimsey	650	v. Winchester	204
Bregaw v. Claw	2013	Bright v. Larcher	1360, 2029
Breithaupt v. Banskett	1458, 1459	v. Rowe	1217, 1249, 1273
Bremer v. Freeman	366, 367, 368, 371, 1515, 1517	v. Smith	1540
Brenchley v. Lyan	59, 102, 177, 384, 391, 392, 415, 523	v. Woodward	1037
v. Still	388	Bright's Trusts, In re	1240, 1243, 1245
Brennan v. Whittaker	728	Brightman v. Hicks	1782
Brent v. Washington	1115, 1123, 1128, 1139, 1207, 1211, 1243	v. Keighley	239, 243, 1670, 1799
Bret v. Cumberland	691	Brighton, In the Goods of	411
Brett v. Brett	85, 327, 328, 1053	v. Russell	891, 1883
v. Cumberland	1750	Brimmer v. Sohler	6, 216, 221, 1080, 1081
v. Horton	1513	Brinckenhoff v. Wemple	1867
v. Rigden	1204	Brine v. Ferrier	170, 1291
Bretton v. Lethulier	1219	Brinkerhoff v. Remsden	89
Brewer v. Blougher	1099, 1514	v. Starkins	705
v. Ferguson	360	Brinkman v. Brinkman	770
v. Opie	1086	Brinton's Estate	1860
v. Pocock	1345	Briscoe v. Briscoe	1449
Brewin, In the Goods of	98	v. Wickliffe	286, 1224
Brewster, In the Goods of	134	Bristol v. Austin	1126
v. Brewster	763, 1946, 1947, 1951	Bristol, Dean of, v. Guyse	1870, 1937
		Bristow v. Bristow	1152, 1295, 1423, 2041
		British Museum v. White	89, 1071, 1072

Brittlebank v. Goodwin	2028	Brooks v. Floyd	878, 880
Britton v. Bathhurst	1029, 1955	v. Lynde	1344, 1387, 1931, 2029
v. Jones	1965	v. Oliver	2005
v. Lewis	951	v. Powers	755
v. Lorenz	360	v. Stevens	1896
v. Miller	1091	v. Stroud	284
Broach v. Walker	594	Brooksbank v. Smith	2024
Broadbent v. Hughes	376	v. Wentworth	1187
Broadhurst v. Balguy	1820, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1826	Brookshire v. Dubose	362, 878, 1929
Broadmead v. Wood	1094	Broom v. Broom	666
Brocher v. Pond	1990	Broome v. Monck	204, 1017, 1762, 1763
Brock v. Bradley	1270, 1288	v. Van Hook	1802
v. Lockett	21, 360	Broomhall v. Wilbraham	1709
v. Sawyer	1425	Brothers v. Cartwright	658
Brocket v. Bush	1801	v. McCurdy	1266, 1267
Brocklehurst v. Jessop	1715	Brotherton v. Bury	1263
Brocklesby, Re	1901	v. Harris	481
Brockman v. McDonald	1937	v. Hellier	211, 977, 980
Brocks v. Phillips	230	v. Hellyer	2061
Brocksopp v. Barnes	1853	Brotter v. Bateman	2013
Broderick's Will, In re	45, 549, 552, 553	Brougham, Lord, v. Powlett	989, 1399, 2031
Broderip, In the Goods of	74	Broughton v. Broughton	1855
Brodhead v. Wiltse	360	v. Knight	33
Brodie v. Barry	366, 761, 1443	v. Martin	901
v. Bickley	362, 364, 602, 1929	v. Randall	1204
v. Bolton	2037	Brouncker v. Bagot	677
v. Chandos	1063	Brounker v. Brounker	42
Brogden v. Brown	22, 28, 38, 352, 983, 985	v. Bowers	1098, 1104
Brokaw v. Peterson	1097, 1098, 1211	v. Fisher	17
Broker v. Charter	275, 281, 283, 1386	Brown, In the Goods of	181, 380
Bromage v. Lloyd	943	Estate of	1846, 2029
Bromfield, Ex parte	668	Ex parte	140, 142, 470, 529, 2054
v. Chichester	1656	v. Adv. Gen.	1621
v. Crowder	1246	v. Alden	749
Bromley v. Brunton	779	v. Allen	1370
v. Jeffereys	1088	v. Anderson	333, 1803
v. Wright	662, 664, 1196, 1240	v. Armistead	654
Bronson v. Winter	1159, 1164, 1325	v. Atkins	2060
Bronson v. Burnett	121	v. Benight	258
Bronson's Will	239	v. Betts	6
Brook v. Badley	1060, 1069	v. Bigg	1088, 1392
v. Croxton	1086	v. Brown	121, 157, 159, 162, 181, 204, 221, 362, 364, 380, 534, 658, 749, 774, 777, 778, 1085, 1088, 1113, 1153, 1219, 1224, 1232, 1369, 1444, 1449, 1502, 1511, 1929
v. Skinner	1918, 1920	v. Burke	1502
v. Turner	54, 55	v. Candler	831
Brookbank v. Kennard	754	v. Catell	831
Brooke, In the Goods of	146	v. Clary	1740
v. Brooke	757, 1712	v. Claxton	2029
v. Croxton	1217	v. Concord	1076, 1258
v. Haymes	276	v. Dawson	1296
v. Kent	130, 146	v. De Selding	89, 96
v. Lewis	1387	v. Dowthwaite	2019
v. Townshend	21	v. Durbin	257, 259, 265
v. Turner	1183, 1185	v. Dye	1514
Brookes v. Brookes	284	v. Dysinger	1178
v. Stroud	381, 956, 1867	v. Farndell	422, 1454, 1496, 1497, 1526
Brookfield v. Allen	1119	v. Finley	1679
Brooking v. Jennings	492, 493, 1029, 1032	v. Furer	1931
Brookman v. Smith	1271	v. Garland	1876
Brooks v. Badley	1060	v. Gellatly	1391, 1395
v. Barrett	20, 21, 346		
v. Cooke	878		
v. Dent	1693		
v. Duffell	92		

## TABLE OF CASES.

2441

Brown v. Gibson	325, 334	Browne v. Browne	1246
v. Glasscock	534	v. Archbishop of Canterbury	540
v. Gordon	1743, 1747, 1949, 2027	v. Cogawell	1178, 1185
v. Hallett	74	v. Cross	2023
v. Hicks	1937	v. Dunnery	854
v. Hobson	654	v. Elton	1414
v. Hodgdon	1444	v. Greening	1153
v. James	1693	v. Groombridge	989
v. Jones	752, 755	v. Hammond	1090, 1221, 1277
v. Jordan	750	v. Hope	1209
v. Kelsey	650, 1072, 1399	v. Lord Kenyon	1273
v. Lake	2010	v. Molliston	39
v. Lawrence	1124, 1232, 1261	v. Southouse	1847
v. Leavitt	259, 265, 267, 269, 1946	v. Vineyard	1860
v. Lewis	631, 632, 878, 881	Brownell v. De Wolf	162, 216
v. Lillie	728	Browner v. Sterdevant	793, 800, 1734
v. Litton	1808	Brownfield v. Brownfield	1153
v. Luckett	346	Brownlee v. Lockwood	539, 918
v. Lyon	1079, 1088	v. Lockhart	1739
v. McAllister	87	v. Steel	1420, 1432
v. McGuire	1325	Browning, In the Goods of	416
v. Meeting Street Baptist Soc.	1077	Browning v. Budd	47, 115, 350, 352
v. Molliston	47	v. Headley	856
v. Moore	47, 360, 779	v. Huff	1888
v. Nicholls	466	v. Litton	1941
v. Nourse	1887	v. Paris	1946
v. Oakshott	1463, 1474	v. Reane	411
v. Paull	1126	Brownson v. Lawrance	1702
v. Peck	1265	Bruce, In re	1517, 1518, 1637
v. Pendergast	594, 961	v. Bruce	1515, 1521
v. Pittman	2013	v. Charlton	1230
v. Pocock	751	v. Morice	1700
v. Poyns	255	Brudnel's case	486
v. Public Administrator	991, 998, 1000	Bruere v. Pemberto	1845
v. Ricketts	1846, 1847	Bruin v. Knott	1410, 1546
v. Saltonstall	1153	Brummel v. Prothero	1707
v. Selwin	1153, 1312	Brummet v. Barber	1106
v. Selwyn	1315, 1316	Brumridge v. Brumridge	1828
v. Shand	74, 104	Brundage v. Brundage	836, 837, 1164
v. Smith	1518, 1521	Brunel v. Brunel	1517, 1519
v. Southouse	1844	Brunker v. Cook	6
v. Spooner	1862	Brunsdon v. Woolridge	1116
v. Stewart	417	Brunson v. Brunson	777, 1500
v. Strickland	575	v. Hunter	108
v. Sullivan	259, 262	Brush v. Bacon	2057
v. Taylor	1079	v. Brush	6
v. Temperley	1429	v. Button	2057
v. Thompson	193, 201	v. Holland	41, 48
v. Thorndike	137, 183, 184	v. Ware	650
v. Torrey	33, 40	v. Wilkins	192, 195, 197, 371
v. Weatherby	1743	v. Young	461
v. Weaver	938	Bryan v. Clay	1026
v. Webber	881, 1872	v. McGee	362
v. Wheeler	894	v. Mansion	1112
v. Williams	1091	v. Mundy	1946
v. Wood	346, 347, 422, 424, 549, 576, 579, 1120	v. Rooks	871, 872, 1489
v. Wooler	1254	v. Thompson	946, 950
Brown's Appeal	1836	v. Twigg	1463, 1464
case	1836	v. Walton	550
Will, Re	143, 147, 1196	v. White	93
Brown & Sibley's Contract, In re	1193	Bryant v. Craig	1849
Browne v. Amyott	832	v. Deberry	1102
		v. Hunter	1296
		v. Russell	1806
		Brice, In the Goods of	76

Bryden v. Willett	1086, 1112	Bullock v. Bennett	221, 222, 1068, 1276, 1277
Brydges v. Duchess of Chandos	6, 1088	v. Bullock	1084, 1093, 1108
v. Phillips	1707, 1708, 1710	v. Downes	1119, 1123, 1462, 2029
v. Wotton	1285	v. Rogers	362, 631
Bryson v. Brownrigg	774	v. Wheatley	1816
Bubb v. Yelverton	1283	Bullpin v. Clarke	61
Bubb's case	660	Bulmer v. Hunter	752
Bubbers v. Harby	450, 965	v. Jay	1133, 1135
Buchanan v. Buchanan	1947	Bulwer v. Bulwer	717
v. Matlock	380	Bunbury v. Hawson	1736, 1738
v. Pue	1796	Bunce v. Vandergrift	658, 663
v. Turner	53	Bunch v. Hurst	1230
Buck v. Frencham	1088	Bundy v. McKnight	40, 47, 50, 91, 96
v. Norton	1079	Bunn v. Markham	774, 776, 781
Buckeridge v. Ingram	811	v. Winthrop	1181, 1185
Buckhout v. Hunt	989	Bannel v. Witherow	752
Buckingham v. Owen	594	Banner v. Storm	287, 1513
Buckinghamshire, Lord, v. Drury	1490	Bunnett v. Foster	2041
Buckland, Ex parte	995	Buntin's Appeal	1822
v. Brooke	1021	Bunny v. Bunny	217
v. Butterfield	745, 746	Bunting, In re	956
Buckle v. Buckle	85, 86	v. Marriott	1061, 1062, 1063
v. Fawcett	1082, 1112, 1465	Bunyan v. Mortimer	2023
Buckles v. Lafferty	938	Burbank v. Payne	362, 431
Buckley v. Barber	273, 651	v. Whitney	1070, 1267
v. Buckley	1705, 1712	Burch, In the Goods of	438
v. Pirk	1657, 1754, 1755, 1756	v. Clarke	534
Bucklin v. Chapin	785, 1801	v. Burch	959
v. Ford	1880	Burchard v. Wright	1372
Buckmaster v. Harrop	1763	Burchett v. Woolward	1264
Buckminster v. Ingham	265	Burd v. Burd	1225
v. Perry	21	Burden v. Burden	1846, 1853
Buckmyer v. Mairs	1679	Burder v. Hodgson	345
Buckworth v. Simpson	1760	Burdet v. Pix	1047
Budd, In the Goods of	162	Burdett v. Hapgood	1054
v. Brooke	293	Burdick v. Garrick	1847, 1849, 2023
v. Hiler	709	Burdon v. Dean	869
v. Silver	426	Burdyne v. Mackey	1872
Buffaloe v. Baugh	1374, 1375	Burford v. Burford	75
Buffar v. Bradford	1215, 1480	Burge v. Brutton	1046, 1854
Buffum v. Buffum	666	Burger v. Hill	352, 357, 551
Bugden v. Ellison	1181	Burges v. Mawbey	1215
Buie v. Buie	2029	Burgess v. Burgess	1283
Buissieres v. Albert	1509, 1510, 1513	v. Marriott	976, 978
Buist v. Dawes	1441, 1445, 1449	v. Robinson	1268
v. Hawes	1112	Burgis v. Burgis	676
Buleson v. Bowman	1112	Burgoyne v. Showler	101, 130
Bulkeley v. Wilford	112, 552	Burhams v. Blanchard	1895
Bulkley v. Andrews	881, 1872	Burk v. Baxter	736
v. Noble	1502	Burke v. Adkins	534
v. Redmond	127, 157, 379, 401, 550	v. Jones	2028
Bull, Matter of	951	v. Wilder	1097
v. Bull	108, 1055, 1091, 1126	Burkitt v. Ransom	2037
v. Church	1445, 1446	Burkhead v. Colson	1376
v. Comberbach	1109	Burleigh v. Clough	1396
v. Harris	1974	v. Coffin	691, 871
v. Pritchard	1243, 1246, 1250	v. Stott	1948
v. Wheeler	266, 1975	Burles v. Popplewell	1923
Bullard v. Bullard	1502	Burleton v. Humphrey	1278
v. Carter	6	Burley v. Evelyn	665
v. Goffe	1182	Burlington v. Fosby	1514
Bullin v. Fletcher	204	Burls v. Burls	379
Bullock, In the Goods of	469	Burn v. Cole	365, 429, 1515
		Burnaby v. Barsby	1070

Barnap v. Dennis	1974	Burt, In re	960
Burne v. Richardson	932	Burwell v. Anderson	1844
Burnell v. Browne	1432	v. Corbin	75
Burnes v. Burton	1980	v. Corrant	1684
Burnet v. Dixe	1047	v. Mandeville	1658, 1792
v. Holden	892, 998	Bush v. Cowan	1458
v. Mann	422, 1497, 1508, 1511	Bussell v. Marriot	68, 350
Burnett v. Harwell	534	Bustard v. Saunders	1094
v. Lynch	1751	Buster v. Newkirk	705
v. Meadows	430	Buswell v. Roby	1881, 1946, 1947
v. Silliman	87	Butcher v. Kemp	1446
Burney v. Morgan	1910	v. Leach	1231
Burnham v. Bennett	860	Bute, Marquis of, v. Cunynghame	1702
v. Dalling	894	v. Harman	1243
v. Lassell	802	Butler, Ex parte	639, 980
v. Rangeley	1519, 1522	v. Benson	75, 86, 88, 347
Burnley v. Duke	550, 567	v. Bernard	918
v. Lambert	1376	v. Butler	615, 988, 1088,
Burns v. Burns	127, 150		1700
v. Clark	1258, 1267, 1268	v. Bushnell	1124
Burnside v. Merrick	1742	v. Carter	2031
v. Mitchell	1740	v. Duncomb	1097
v. Twitchell	740	v. Freeman	1429
Burr v. Davall	1088	v. Greenwood	185
v. Sandwich	1057	v. Lowe	1090
v. Sherman	858	v. Merchants Ins. Co.	1502
v. Sim	318	v. Mulvihill	41
v. Smith	1070, 1072, 1076	v. Ommoney	1110
Burrell, In the Goods of	447	v. Page	730, 740
v. Baskerfield	658	v. Rickets	753
Burridge v. Bradyl	1364	v. Stratton	1113, 1513
Burrill v. Boardman	1070	Butt v. Deschamps	1983
v. Shiel	1233, 1235	Butt's case	674
Burritt v. Silliman	41	Butter v. Ommoney	1211, 1219
Burrough v. Moss	849	Butterfield v. Hamant	1085
v. Philcox	1116, 1423	v. Haskins	1086, 1093
Burroughs v. Elton	2020	v. Stanton	758
v. Griffiths	338	Butterworth v. Harvey	1240, 1248, 1273
v. N. Car. R. R. Co.	836	Button v. American Tract Soc.	1153,
v. Nutting	62		1199
v. Stevens	1974	Buttrick v. King	469
Burrows v. Burrows	20, 71	Butts v. Gering	1883, 2012
v. Cottrell	1652	Buxton v. Buxton	1806, 1816
v. Gore	2031	Buzby's Appeal	1124
v. Walls	1823, 1836	Byam v. Munton	665
Burston v. Ridley	290	v. Sutton	689
Burt v. Hellyar	1125, 1211	Byde v. Byde	1299, 1300
v. Herron	108	Byne v. Blackburn	1126
v. Kicker	687	v. Currey	1652
Burtch v. Elliot	1679	Byng v. Byng	720, 1093
Burtenshaw v. Gilbert	148, 149, 154	v. Lord Strafford	1082, 1106,
Burting v. Stonard	933		1266
Burtis v. Dodge	1425, 1844	Bynum v. Bynum	11, 93, 124
Burton v. Chim	1876	Byrchall v. Bradford	1399
v. Collingwood	189	Byrd, In the Goods of	90, 91
v. Dickinson	1498	v. Gibson	416
v. Fisher	365	v. Holloway	915, 1776
v. Hintrager	687	v. Wells	1802, 1863
v. Holly	61	v. Wilford	842
v. Knowlton	1709, 1710	Byrn v. Fleming	325
v. Mount	1163, 1177	v. Godfrey	1675
v. Newberry	212, 213	Byrne v. Byrne	1296
v. Pierpont	767	v. Norcott	1820
v. Sharp	423	v. Stewart	410, 663, 1119
v. Waples	418	Bythesca v. Bythesca	1263



C.			
Cabell v. Vaughan	956, 1312	Campbell v. Beaufoy	368, 560, 1517
Cable v. Cable	1123	v. Brownrigge	1087, 1273
Cadbury v. Duval	935	v. Campbell	117, 1088, 1288, 1301, 1338, 1858, 1867
v. Smith	2050	v. Coudry	1424
Cadge, In the Goods of	131	v. French	173, 1420
Cadogan v. Kennett	752, 753	v. Graham	1160, 1169, 1304, 1434, 2029
Cadwalader v. Howell	1519, 1521	v. Harding	1106
Cadywold, In Goods of	200	v. Jamison	211
Cassar v. Chew	359, 1153, 1199	v. Johnson	817
Cafe v. Bent	1163, 1177	v. Logan	94, 549
Cage v. Russel	1274	v. Lucy	564, 565
Caig, Ex parte	442	v. Lord Netterville	1279
Cain v. Haas	440, 1943	v. McDonald	1258
v. Warford	581	v. Mesier	894
Caines v. Marley	756	v. Miller	1806, 1808
Cairns v. Chaubert	1176, 1396	v. Prescott	1178, 1185
Calamy v. Hyde	149	v. Radnor, Lord	559, 1074, 1290, 1291, 1294, 2049
Calcot, Ex parte	845	v. Sheldon	265, 271, 362, 366, 431, 1515,
Caldecott v. Caldecott	1163, 1177, 1392, 1395	v. Tousey	257, 265, 266, 362
v. Harrison	1105	v. Wallace	362, 366
Calder v. Rutherford	1740	v. Williams	1844
Caldicot v. Smith	1512	Campbell's Estate	774
Caldwell v. Fellowes	1461	Campfield v. Ely	1788, 1790, 1974
v. Harding	361, 362	Campion v. Bentley	1963
v. Kinkead	1224, 1297	v. Cotton	752, 767
v. Renfrew	61, 774, 777, 781	v. Kille	371
Calhoun's Estate	1804, 1820	Candler v. Dinkle	1226
Call v. Ewing	956, 1820, 1821	v. Smith	1081
Callaghan v. Callaghan	1770	v. Tillett	1822, 1828
v. Hall	1844, 1861	Candor's Appeal	779
Callanane v. Campbell	1643	Candy v. Campbell	1250
Callender v. Keystone Ins. Co.	1895	Canfield v. Bostwick	220, 221, 1153
Caller v. Dade	1875	v. Hard	1658
Calloway v. Doe	302, 366	Cann v. Sloan	1947
v. Langhorne	1433	Canning v. Hicks	687
Calmady v. Calmady	760, 764, 766	Cannings v. Flower	1412
Calthorpe v. Gough	1219, 1269	Cannon v. Ulmer	1372
Calvert v. Holland	1843	v. Windsor	409
v. Marlow	1747	Canterbury, Alp. of, v. House	466, 535, 536, 539
v. Sebbon	1281	v. Robertson	539,
v. Selbon	1653		541, 1484
Calvin's case	1052	v. Tappen	541, 1485
Caly v. Joslin	1753, 1755	v. Tubb	534
Cambiaso v. Negrotto	544	v. Willis	540, 2057
Cambridge v. Rous	1211, 1260, 1458, 1465	Cantfield v. Bostwick	1853
Camden v. Fletcher	262	Capdevielle, In re	373, 1517, 1518, 1519, 1643
Cameron v. Cameron	533, 1966	Cape v. Cape	1126
v. Justices	1820	Capehart v. Huey	1815
v. Commissioners of Raleigh	1187	Capen v. Peckham	730
Cammack v. Johnson	1743	Caplin, In re	1117
Camoy's, Lord, v. Blundell	1151	Card v. Grinman	127, 150
Camp v. Grant	1742	Cardale v. Harvey	475
v. Pote	901	Careless v. Careless	1199
v. Smith	1795	Carew v. Broughton	878
Camp's Appeal	774, 777, 778, 781	v. Burgoyne	854
Campanari v. Woodburn	1727	Carey v. Askew	71, 1401
Campbell, In the Goods of	379, 517, 546	v. Berkshire Railroad	796
v. Adcock	540	v. Dennis	104
v. Baldwin	878, 881, 1875	v. Goodinge	1315, 1316

Carey v. Guillow	269, 270	Carter v. Bentall	1082, 1112
Carleton v. Lovejoy	749	v. Carter	239, 302, 550, 1278
Carlisle v. Burley	629, 877, 878, 1870	v. Crawley	424, 1483, 1496, 1812
v. Garland	894	v. Crofts	361
Carlton v. Carlton	87	v. Cutting	1844
Carmichael, In the Goods of	464, 1204	v. Estes	877
v. Carmichael	265, 268	v. Green	1069, 1075
v. Ray	362, 1663, 1664	v. Greenwood	650
Carnagy v. Woodcock	709, 1181, 1185	v. Grimshaw	754
Carnall v. Wilson	820	v. Hunt	1084
Carne v. Brice	749, 757	v. Phelps	1938, 1940
v. Long	1073	v. Robbins	259
Carnegie v. Morrison	371	v. State	360
Carnes v. Platt	360	v. Taggart	831, 1417
Carnochan, Ex parte	435	v. Thomas	6, 204, 221, 1776
Caroon's case	229, 230, 235	v. Trueman	539
Carow v. Mowatt	449, 450, 575	Cartledge v. Cutliff	1851
Carpenter v. Bott	1119	Cartwright v. Cartwright	21, 23, 347,
v. Brownlee	763	1265, 1804, 1806, 2029	
v. Cameron	239	v. Shephard	217, 2012
v. Commonwealth	371	v. Shepherd	1796
v. Dodge	774, 780	v. Vawdry	1101
v. Dunsmore	682	Cartwright's case	426, 480
v. Going	271	Carver v. Bowles	1332, 1439
v. Heard	1085	v. Burgess	1217, 1465
v. Miller	186	v. Haselrig	492
v. Schermerhorn	1093	v. Oakley	1092, 1219
v. Shelford	442	v. Pierce	731
Carr, In the Goods of	477	Cary v. Abbot	1055, 1056, 1058
v. Anderson	1966, 1969	v. Appleton	766
v. Carr	1196	v. Askew	561, 1443
v. Chapman	2029	v. Stephenson	630, 1880
v. Collins	665	Casamajor v. Strode	1263
v. Eastabrooke	1297, 1416	Case v. Abeel	938
v. Ellison	658	v. Dennison	774
v. Errol, Lord	725	v. Page	1819
v. Estill	1088, 1094	v. Phelps	853, 754
v. Green	1080	Case's Appeal	1901, 1911
v. M'Camm	350	Casement v. Fulton	87, 90, 91
v. McCannon	115	Casey v. Gardiner	281, 453
v. Roberts	614, 787, 1892	Cash v. Cock	1992
v. Taylor	869, 1308, 1419	Casmore, In the Goods of	79
v. Wyley	1875	Cassels v. Vernon	550, 1872
Carrick v. Carrick	915	Cassidy, In the Goods of	439, 469, 509
Carrington, Lord, v. Payne	346, 347	Cassilly v. Meyer	1664
Carrol v. Bosley	1796	Casson v. Dade	92
v. Connet	1966	Castell v. Tagg	353, 356
Carroll v. Carroll	6, 67, 221, 550, 562,	Castle v. Fox	221, 1202, 1438
1101, 1445, 1514		v. Torre	71, 74, 354
v. Connet	254, 474, 533	v. Warland	1818, 1826
v. Lee	750	Castledon v. Turner	1199
v. Norton	39, 47	Castleton v. Fanshaw	1803
Carron Iron Co. v. Maclaren	432, 991,	Caston v. Caston	1445
1517		Castor v. Aicles	815
Carruthers v. Corbin	1841	Caswell v. Hill	748, 749, 836
Carson v. Bryant	1946	Catchside v. Ovington	982
v. Carson	1396, 1796	Cater's Trusts, Re	1901
v. M'Farland	883, 1862	Catherwood v. Chabaud	648, 880, 919, 961,
Carstairs v. Pottle	169	1874, 1891	
Cart v. Hodgkin	792	Catlett v. Russell	1730
v. Rees	412, 696, 872, 1489	Catley v. Sampson	1692
Carte v. Carte	247, 250, 1329	Catlin v. Underhill	878, 1871
Carter v. Anderson	576	Caton v. Caton	124
v. Balfour	1076	v. Coles	1732
v. Barnardiston	690	v. Rideout	758

Cator v. Cator	1081	Chambers v. Howell	938
Catt's Trusts, In re	1274	v. Leversage	1779
Cattel v. Simons	1358	v. McDaniel	97, 100, 107
Cattley v. Arnold	829, 831	v. Minchin	1824, 1825, 1826, 1833, 1835
Cattlin v. Brown	1250	v. The Queen's Proctor	20,
Cattrall, In the Goods of	84	25, 27, 34, 102	
Cauffman v. Cauffman	1441, 1450	v. St. Louis	1070, 1076
Caulfield v. Maguire	1013, 1112	v. Smith	1852
Cavan v. Fultensy	1443	v. Spencer	754
Cave v. Cave	736, 737, 1153	Chambers's Appeal	1802
v. Cork	1910	Chamney, In the Goods of	96
v. Holford	204	Champion, Ex parte	1810
v. Roberts	434, 1490, 1514	Champney v. Blanchard	771, 774, 778
Cavendish v. Cavendish	1182	Chance v. Chance	1232
v. Fleming	1844	Chancey's case	1299
v. Mercer	1412	Chandler v. Barrett	22
Caverley v. Ellison	1960	v. Davidson	258, 262, 263
Cavett's Appeal	74, 75	v. Ferris	21, 47, 50, 351
Cawer v. James	1882	v. Hudson	474
Caweth v. Phillips	1314	v. Neil	1740
Cawood v. Thompson	1067	v. Rider	951, 954
Cawthorn v. Coppedge	1498	v. Thompson	492, 933
Cawthorne, In re	1901	Chandos, Duke of, v. Talbot	1253, 1255
v. Chalie	443	Channel v. Ditchburn	1948
v. Haynes	51, 359	Channon v. Patch	709
v. Weissinger	1946	Chanter, In the Goods of	445, 523
Cawthron, In the Goods of	190	Chapin v. Hastings	473
Cayuga Bank v. Bennett	1803, 1947	v. Hill	1445
Cecil v. Cecil	1502	v. School District	1072
v. Rose	1421	v. Waters	534, 1310, 1797
Chace v. Box	1540	Chaplin v. Chaplin	1693
v. Chace	792	Chaplyn, In the Goods of	79
Chadbourn v. Chadbourn	1784, 1786, 1800, 1801	Chapman, In the Goods of	213
Chadron v. Harris	7, 343	In re	1153
Chadwick v. Doleman	1094	v. Brown	1064, 1088
Chadwin, Ex parte	1363	v. Chapman	1130
Chaffe v. Kelland	1942	v. Comings	1843
Chaffee v. Baptist Missionary Con-		v. Dalton	884, 885, 1657
vention	89, 93, 94, 101, 102, 103	v. Davis	1887
Chaffers v. Abell	1240	v. Eagar	1685
Chaffin v. Chaffin	1039	v. Fish	362, 432
Challen v. Shippam	1819	v. Hart	1178, 1327
Challoner v. Challoner	1987	v. Kellogg	752, 758
Chalmer v. Bradley	647	v. Reynolds	1189
Chalmers v. North	1124	v. Rothwell	797, 798
v. Storil	1197, 1260	v. Turner	1041, 1049
Chaloner v. Butcher	658	Chapman's case	1125
Chamberlain, In the Goods of	583	Chapman's Trusts, In re	1211, 1589
v. Bates	915	Chappel v. Avery	1153, 1276
v. Chamberlain	552, 1052, 1070, 1348, 1451, 1897, 2001	Chappell v. Brown	1941
v. Hewson	1413	v. Chappell	417
v. Stearns	1076	v. Haynes	7, 1531
v. Williamson	800, 805, 806	Charge v. Goodyer	1105
Chamberlayne v. Temple	261	Charitable Donations, Commission-	
Chamberlin v. Spencer	1895, 1896	ers of, v. Cotter	1263
Chambers, Ex parte	1413	Charitable Donations, Commission-	
v. Brailsford	1083, 1085, 1088	ers of, v. Devereux	1520, 1542
v. Chambers	1163, 1177, 1894	Charitable Donations, Commission-	
v. Fennemore	1803, 1947	ers of, v. Wybrants	2031
v. Godwin	1429	Charles v. Coker	750
v. Goldwin	1858	v. Dubois	1843
v. Harvest	1041	Charleston v. Wellington	1853
		Charlton v. Coombes	1839
		v. Durham, Earl of	881

## TABLE OF CASES.

2447

Charlton v. Hindmarsh	91, 496	Child v. Giblett	1263
v. Low	1018, 1799, 2052, 2053	v. Gibson	1845
v. West	1296, 1299	v. Gratiot	229
v. Wright	1666	v. Pearl	752, 759
Charlton's Estate	1806	v. Wright	1038
Charman v. Charman	204	Child's Appeal	2060
Charnock v. Currey	575	Childers v. Childers	1106
Charter v. Otis	1153	Childress v. Bennett	430
Chase v. Alliance Ins. Co.	371	v. Wright	730
v. Bradley	1800	Childs v. Monins	1780
v. Chase	1126	v. Russell	1124, 1224
v. Kittredge	67, 91, 94, 96	v. Updyke	1801
v. Lincoln	346, 347	Chillcott v. White	1079
v. Lockerman	687, 1080, 1089, 1090, 1168, 1693, 1844, 2038	Chilton v. Henderson	1112
v. Redding	776, 777, 781, 782, 1679	China v. White	1086
Chatfield v. Berchtoldt	1642	Chipchase v. Simpson	1115
Chattaway v. Smith	1088	Chipman v. Montgomery	1441, 1444
Chatteris v. Young	1219, 1295, 1651	Chippendale v. Thurston	1948
Chauncey v. Grandon	888, 1280	Chisholm v. Ben	91, 380
Chaunter v. Chaunter	292	Chisolm v. Chisolm	1425, 1429
Chauvel v. Chimelli	892	Chissum v. Dewes	1040
Chaworth v. Beech	105, 1160, 1168	Chittenden v. Knight	427
v. Hooper	1431	Choate v. Arrington	1310
Cheatham v. Burfoot	539	Cholmeley v. Cholmeley	769, 1531, 1532
v. Riddle	1887	Cholmondeley, In re	1558, 1623
Checkley v. Checkley	847	v. Lord Ashburton	1119
Cheek v. Wheatly	1887, 1888	Chouteau v. Suydam	1800
Cheaney v. Arnold	103	Christian, In the Goods of	94
Cheatham v. Sturtevant	892	v. Devereux	614, 1281, 2029
v. Ward	1310, 1311	v. Foster	2041
Cheever v. Wilson	749	Christie v. Gosling	725
Cheeves v. Bell	1513	Christie's Estate	1846
Chelsea Waterworks v. Cowper	1348, 1350, 1353, 1972	Christler v. Meddis	658, 1396
Chenery v. Webster	1679, 1946	Christmas v. Mitchell	17
Cheney's case	1199	v. Whinyates	131, 142
Cherry v. Boultsbee	1130, 1306	Christopher v. Christopher	193
v. Mott	1076	Christophers v. White	1854
Cheshire v. Cheshire	1373	Christopherson v. Naylor	1211, 1219
Chesnut v. Strong	1391, 1431, 1796	Christ's Hospital v. Budgin	759
Chesson v. Chesson	1861	Christy v. Courtenay	754, 1683
Chester v. Chester	1477	v. McBride	1817
v. Creer	1372, 1380	Christy's Appeal	1498, 1502
v. Painter	1397	Chrystie v. Phye	1080, 1084, 1086, 1221
v. Urwick	126, 1153, 1161, 1303	Church Building Society v. Barlow	1069
Chester's, Lady, case	389, 393	Church v. Chapin	754
Chestnut v. Strong	1230	v. Church	1070
Chetham v. Audley	1857	v. Crocker	197
Chevalier v. Finnis	1897	v. Hubbard	371
Chevallier v. Wilson	774, 1841	v. Kemble	1441
Cheveaux v. Aislabie	1232	v. Wachter	1717
Chevely v. Stone	1017	Churchill v. Bank of England	812
Chew v. Chew	575	v. Bertrand	1775, 1940
v. Evans	654	v. Boyden	362, 1664
v. Nicklin	662	v. Churchill	1098, 1288, 1441
v. Travers	1887	v. Corker	758
Chew's Appeal	1109, 1248	v. Hobson	1818, 1822, 1825, 1833, 1836
Estate	575, 946	v. Marks	1266
Cheyney & Smith's case	1381	v. Prescott	440, 1515, 1664
Chichester v. Bickerstaff	661	Churchman v. Ireland	1444
v. Coventry	1301, 1333	Cilley v. Cilley	21, 25, 89, 346
v. Oxenden	1088	v. Huse	666
Chilcot v. Bromley	1148	Ciples v. Alexander	1776, 1894
Child v. Elsworth	569	City v. City	1534
		City Council v. Hagermeyer	1511

Civil v. Rich	1540, 1542	Clarke, In the Goods of	76
Clack v. Holland	1805	v. Berkeley	1277, 1279
Claggett v. Hardy	1396	v. Bickers	1746
v. Hawkins	73	v. Blount	1820, 1852
Clancy, In re	1068	v. Bogardus	1297, 1304, 1308
Clapp v. Beardsley	687, 1887, 1888	v. Burgoine	1332
v. Cable	1860	v. Butler	185, 1173
v. Fullerton 30, 33, 46, 47, 346, 360		v. Canfield	318
v. Meserole	1366	v. Chapin	544
v. Stoughton	650, 854, 1230, 1459	v. Clarke	1090, 1091
v. Walters	1730	v. Clay	540, 630
Clapton v. Bulmer	1124	v. Colls	1099
Clare v. Acemooty	1538	v. Crofts	908
v. Clare	1088	v. Cummings	318
v. Hedges	509	v. Dunnavent	101, 103
Clarendon v. Barham	668, 689, 1698	v. Franklin	665
Clarges v. Albermarle	769	v. Gould	1193, 1260
Claringbull, In the Goods of	97	v. Higgins	1897
Clark, In the Goods of	83	v. Jenkins	1820, 1833
v. Bank of Missouri	749	v. Johnston	2006
v. Browne	1324	v. Lear	27
v. Blackington	361, 362, 687, 932, 938, 1664, 1843, 2060	v. Lord Ormonde	726, 1440, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1918, 1919
v. Bomford	1801	v. Lubbock	1260
v. Burgh	693	v. Parker	1277, 1278, 1280, 1287
v. Burnside	730	v. Sawyer	148
v. Clark 412, 975, 1039, 1106, 1176, 1396, 1820, 1822, 1823, 1827, 1828		v. Sewell	1424
v. Clement	361, 362, 430, 431, 1929	v. Scripps	128, 135, 139, 141, 142, 148
v. Cochran	366	v. State	529
v. Collins	1951	v. Tufts	529, 647
v. Crownshaw	736	v. Terry	1389, 1396
v. Ehorn	153, 186, 187, 204	Clarke's Appeal	1844
v. Fisher	22, 40, 45, 46, 111, 360	Clarkington, In the Goods of	445
v. French	1679	Clarkson v. Clarkson	147, 1395, 1423
v. Henry	1262	v. De Peyster	1844, 2430
v. Herring	1931	v. Lord Scarborough	835
v. Hooper	1882	Clary v. Clary	346, 360
v. Hougham	879, 882, 883, 1809, 1873	Claussen v. Lafrenz	263
v. Jacques	751	Clavel v. Littleton	1541
v. Jetton	1332	Clavering v. Ellison	1088, 1259, 1265
v. Lamb	881, 1874	v. Yorke	776
v. Maguire	750	Clawson v. Clawson	758
v. McClellan	793	Clay v. Hart	658, 1445
v. Morton	162, 380	v. Irvine	871
v. Mosely	1079	v. Jackson	436
v. Niles	529	v. Pennington	1112, 1219
v. Pishon	550, 631, 1887, 1912	v. Willis	657, 1682, 1684
v. Platt	1853	Clayton v. Akin	1364
v. Ross	1254	v. Brown	753
v. Sewell	1298	v. Gregson	1755
v. Sexton	1951	v. Gresham	1912
v. Small	1771	v. Liverman	11
v. Smith	127	v. Lord Nugent	1155, 1199
v. State	346, 360, 1820	v. Lowe	1263
v. Swift	803	v. Tucker	261
v. Tainter	287, 1796	v. Wardell	989
v. Thomason	1722	Cleare v. Cleare	350, 375
v. Warner	1502	Cleaveland v. Spilman	1093
v. Williams	1909	Cleaver v. Kirk	1502
v. Wilson	1498	v. Spurling	1274, 1535, 1536, 1538, 1540, 1541
v. Wright	157, 162, 380	Clegg v. Fishwick	653
Clark's Trusts, In re	1273, 1458	v. Rowland	1353
Estate	379	Cleghorn v. Ins. Bank	1743

Cleland v. Cleland	869	Cobb v. Page	1777
v. Waters	1085	Cobbett's Trusts, In re	1467
Clemens v. Caldwell	1851	Cochran v. Thompson	452, 650, 917
Clement v. Cauble	1464	Cochran's Estate, In re	1014
Clements v. Hall	653	Will	22, 88
v. Kellogg	2013	Cochrane v. Robinson	1344
v. Reynolds	1953	Cock v. Cooke	106
v. Swain	269, 270	v. Cross	1048, 1317, 1318
Clementson v. Gandy	1442	Cockayne, In the Goods of	153
Clendining v. Clymer	1332, 1335, 1337	v. Harrison	1396
Clennell v. Lewthwaite	1480	Cockburn v. Peel	1812
Cleobury v. Beckett	185	v. Raphael	1860
Clergy Society, In re	1154	Cocks v. Finley	291
Clerk v. Withers	899, 902	v. Jenner	1670, 1799
Clerkson v. Bower	687	v. Walter	304
Clery's Appeal	1712	v. Walters	1875
Cleveland v. Cleveland	529	Cockerell v. Barber	1284, 1434, 1857,
v. Havens	1106, 1112		1859
Clevenstine's Appeal	856	Cockerill v. Kynaston	876, 1896
Cleverly v. Brett	1971	Cocking v. Pratt	1487
v. Gladdish	544	Cockleton v. Davidson	362
Clifford v. Arundell	1182	Cockraft v. Rawles	48
v. Beaumont	1275, 1280	Cockran v. Cockran	1162, 1163
Clifton v. Burt	1359, 1371, 1693, 1717	Cockrell v. Cockrell	1517
v. Goodbun	1101	v. Dickens	1715
v. Murray	18, 94, 115, 351	Cockroft v. Black	1041
Climie v. Wood	730	Cocks v. Manners	1056
Clindenin v. Allen	1883, 2013	v. Purday	371
Clinefetter v. Ayres	1693	Cocksedge v. Cocksedge	1265
Clingan v. Micheltree	104, 127, 137, 204	Cockson v. Drinkwater	1980
Clinton's Trust, In re	1086	Codding v. Newman	281, 284, 285
Clive v. Clive	834, 1423, 1440, 1764	v. Whittaker	1887, 1943
Cloberry v. Lampen	1397	Coe's Trust, Re	1266
Clogstoun v. Walcott	153, 154	Cofer v. Thurmond	820
Clondas v. Adams	658	Coffer v. Wells	687
Cloud v. Clinkinbeard	1300	Coffin v. Coffin	89, 96, 115, 1801
v. Golightly	361	v. Cottle	292, 575,
Clough v. Bond	1819, 1820, 1838	v. Elliot	1461
v. Dixon	525, 1838, 1840	v. Jones	534, 540, 2057
v. French	1011	v. Merrill	846
v. Russell	749	Cogan v. Duncan	1975
v. Wynne	1193	v. Stephens	663
Clowes v. Clowes	1460	Cogbill v. Cogbill	143, 144
Cloyne, Bishop of, v. Young	1481	Cogburn v. McQueen	594
Clulow's Estate, In re	832	Cogdell v. Cogdell	1160, 1170, 1321
Clun v. Fisher	822	Coggeshall v. Pelton	1969, 1071
Clun's case	822, 823, 837	Coghill v. Free love	1750, 1752
Clute v. Bool	1266	Coghlan v. Coghlan	27
Clutterbuck v. Clutterbuck	1710	Cogswell v. Cogswell	1423, 1844
v. Edwards	1249	Cohen v. State	533
Coale v. Smith	217, 856	Cohen v. Waley	1273
Coales, In re	1642	Cohen's Appeal	235, 237, 575
Coard v. Holderness	1160	Will	77
Coat v. Coat	650	Coke v. Hodges	486, 487
Coate's Appeal	108	Coker v. Crosier	793
Coates v. Coates	1304	Colberg, In the Goods of	139, 329
v. Gerlach	758	Colbert v. Daniel	361, 1664, 2006
v. Hart	1085	Colborne v. Wright	479
v. Hughes	192, 377, 549	Colburn v. Holland	1522
v. Stevens	759	Colby v. Colby	1871, 1876
Cobb v. Beardsley	448	v. Samson	749
v. Brown	871	Cole v. Batley	1510
v. Carpenter	1731	v. Cheshire	1519
v. Muzzey	1797, 1802	v. Crayon	1091
v. Newcomb	416, 417, 440	v. Dial	582, 583

Cole v. Elfe	763	Collins v. Doyle	1197
v. Fitzgerald	1181, 1185, 1187	v. Elliott	352
v. Goble	1106	v. Gibson	1682
v. Littlefield	1126	v. Hoxie	871, 1101
v. Miles	947, 948, 1377	v. Johnson	1211
v. Muddle	937	v. Lewis	1717
v. Rea	441	v. Macpherson	1223
v. Sewell	1467	v. Martin	1179
v. Scott	221, 222, 223, 1088, 1189, 1436, 1438	v. Nichols	94
v. Turner	1717	v. Ross	562
v. Wade	959, 1087, 1088, 1117	v. Spears	450
v. Willard	1296, 1299	v. Townley	39
v. Wooden	499, 956, 957	v. Turner	291
Colebeck v. Peck	892, 998	Collinson v. Collinson	1502
Coleby v. Coleby	1702, 1790	v. Lister	986, 1795, 1820, 2052
Colegrave v. Diaz Santos	739	v. Pater	1061
v. Manby	1329, 1769	Collis v. Blackburn	1410
Colegrove v. Robinson	1909	v. Robins	664, 1706, 1707, 1710
Coleman, In the Goods of	135	Collison v. Curling	1167
v. Brooke	763	Colman, Ex parte	2054
v. Coleman	1160, 1168	In the Goods of	92
v. Columbia Oil Co.	836	Colpoys v. Colpoys	1153, 1199
v. Hall	1953	Colshead, Re	1084
v. Hollowell	412	Colson's Trusts, Re	1399
v. Hutchinson	1219	v. Martin	1489, 2035
v. Lane	2029	Colston v. Morris	1389
v. M'Murdo	539	Colt v. Colt	185, 1080, 1081, 1084, 1931
v. Parker	774, 776	v. Hubbard	1230, 1235
v. Robertson	26, 40	v. Lesnier	936
v. Woodworth	791	Coltart v. Allen	574
Coles, In the Goods of	106, 443	Colton v. Ross	551
v. Haden	907	Colville v. Middleton	1711
v. Trecothick	69, 77	v. Parker	755
Coles's Will, In re	1649	Colvin, Re	495, 498
Colgrove v. Horton	237	v. Fraser	154, 158, 497, 549, 538
Collagen v. Burns	147	v. Proctor General	441
Collard v. Smith	244	v. Procurator	1204
Collen v. Wright	1730	Colwell v. Alger	529, 974, 1931, 1933
Colleton v. Garth	1328, 1490	Colyer v. Finch	656, 935
Collett, In the Goods of	240	Combe v. Hughes	1094
v. Collett	1278, 1280, 1872	Combe's case	39, 944
v. Lawrence	1087, 1088	Comber's case	293, 303, 1911
Colley's Trusts, In re	1216, 1472	Comber v. Hardcastle	1897
Collier's Will	1235, 1241	v. Hill	1088
Collier, In the Goods of	508	Combs v. Beaumont	736
v. Collier	185, 661, 1194	v. Jolly	77, 88, 89, 91, 106
v. Idley	342	v. King's Proctor	1421
v. Langebear	98	Comegys v. The State	1844
v. Munn	1854	Comfort v. Mather	1204, 1221
v. Rivaz	367, 368, 371, 1515	Commonwealth v. Boston & Worcester R. R.	797
v. Simpson	860	v. Bryan	540, 974, 981
v. Slaughter	1275, 1277	v. Chace	704, 705
v. Squire	1143, 1182	v. Dorsey	346
Collin v. Collin	1090	v. Evans	534
Collingwood v. Pace	422, 423, 1120, 1509	v. Fairbanks	346
v. Stanhope	1097	v. Forney	534, 654
Collins, In the Goods of	378	v. Gilson	534
v. Ayers	1875, 1887, 1892	v. Gorham	345
v. Bankhead	430	v. Gould	1310
v. Carey	1854	v. Griffin	432
v. Carlisle	108	v. Hammond	1933
v. Carman	1267, 1445	v. Hilger	534
v. Collins	1163, 1177, 1190	v. Lewis	991
v. Crouch	1022, 1758	v. Martin	12

Commonwealth v. Mateer	281, 499, 1844	Cook v. Cholmondely	37
v. Moltz	534	v. Collingbridge	1842
v. Nase	1221	v. Cook	658, 1112, 1805, 1806
v. Rich	346	v. Dawson	656
v. Rogers	360, 529	v. Gregson	990, 1682
v. State	534	v. Holmes	1080, 1081, 1082, 1083
v. Stauffer	1276, 1277	v. Jaggard	1182
v. Strohecker	539	v. Kennedy	750
v. Stubbs	534	v. Lambert	78
v. Sturtivant	346	v. Lovell	1876
v. Webster	360	v. Martyn	2051
v. Wenrick	534	v. Meeker	1387
v. Whitney	902, 1898	v. Oakley	193, 1182, 1460
v. Wilson	346, 360	v. Parsons	90
Comparet v. Randall	650	v. Sanders	267
Comport v. Austen	1250	v. Smith	1217
v. Mather	1088	v. Wagster	1188, 1190
Compton v. Bloxham	568, 1284	v. Weaver	1081
v. Collinson	63	v. Whiting	730
v. Compton	1083	v. Whitney	709
v. Oxenden	688	Cooke, In the Goods of	141, 380, 447
v. Sale	1297	v. Bowler	1193
Comstock v. Hadlyme	21, 40, 51, 346,	v. Clayworth	41
359, 360, 1153, 1199		v. Colcroft	1725
Conant v. Hitt	1879, 1951	v. Crawford	955, 960
v. Stratton	534	v. Dealey	663
Conboy v. Jennings	80, 88, 93, 97	v. Gittings	1912
Concord v. Rumney	31, 33, 1519, 1522	v. Meeker	1391, 1427
Condict v. King	1295, 1389, 1396	v. Mirehouse	1085
Conduitt v. Soane	1396	v. Stationer's Co.	1075, 1459
Congreve v. Congreve	1090	v. Turner	1274
v. Palmer	1211, 1219, 1513	Cookes v. Ballamy	963
Conkey v. Dickinson	1399, 1454, 1796	Cookson v. Bingham	1463, 2041
Conklin v. Conklin	1108, 1250	v. Cookson	658, 666
v. Egerton	287, 654	v. Hancock	185
v. Moore	1239	v. Reay	658
Conly v. Kincaid	662	Cool v. Higgins	969
Connecticut Mutual Life Ins. Co. v.		Coolley v. Brown	1843
New York & New Haven R. R.	796	v. Dewey	1099, 1514
Connell v. Chandler	763	v. Patterson	1946
Connolly's Appeal	1969	v. Vansyckle	1806
Conner v. Coffin	731	Coolidge v. Melvin	754, 755
v. Satchwell	1376	Coombe v. Coombs	389
Connolly v. Pardon	1153, 2038	v. Trist	1615
Connor v. Connor	500	Coombs, In the Goods of	78
v. Martin	848	v. Coombs	1049
Conolly v. Vernon	1088	Coomes v. Elling	1549
Conop v. Hayward	2048	Coon v. Rice	1106
Conover v. Hoffman	8, 185, 655	Coope v. Carter	2009
Conron v. Conron	1171, 1713	v. Creawell	1688, 1689
Consett v. Bell	104, 709, 2020	v. Lowerre	238, 449
Const v. Harris	1372	Cooper, In the Goods of	190, 297, 447
Constable v. Bull	108, 1267	v. Bockett	90, 102, 180
v. Constable	1542	v. Burr	776
v. Steibel	68, 349, 350	v. Cherry	1946
v. Tufnell	40, 46, 47	v. Clason	1265
Constantine v. Constantine	1084, 1088	v. Cooper	204, 237, 1243, 1260,
Converse v. Converse	31, 33, 40	1261, 1262, 1263, 1441, 1442,	
v. Wales	201	1449, 1454, 1526	
Conwell v. Heavilo	1232	v. Day	1295, 1650
Conyers v. Kitson	417	v. Denison	1121, 1124
Coode, In the Goods of	430	v. Douglas	1810
Cook, In re	140	v. Felter	991, 1011
v. Bolton	1020	v. Galbraith	1519
v. Champlain Trans. Co.	728, 734	v. Hepburn	1093



Cooper v. Jarman	1727	Cornwall v. Cornwall	1696
v. Johnson	907	Cornfield v. Wyndham	1196
v. Mantell	1288, 1329	Cornick v. Pearce	658
v. Palmer	1467	Cornish v. Wilson	534, 1693
v. Pitcher	1451, 2038	Cornpropst's Appeal	449
v. Reid	652	Cornwall v. Cornwall	1187
v. Remsen	1265	Cornwallis, Earl, In re	1558
v. Simmons	816, 1765	Cornwell v. Wooley	345, 347
v. Taylor	1988	Corporation of Clergymen's Sons v.	
v. Thornton 1127, 1404, 1405, 1407		Swainson	2050
v. Woolfitt	714	Corrie's Will, In re	1112, 1211, 1295
v. Wormald	752	Corriell v. Ham	1445
v. Wray	1504	Corrigan v. Kiernan	1079
v. Wyatt	1266	Cort v. Winder	1211, 1216, 1219, 1263
Cooper's Estate, In re	187, 204	Cortlandt v. Kip	1084
Trusts, In re	665, 1459	Corven's case	723, 727
Coore v. Todd	1370	Corwin v. Lowell	894
Coote v. Boyd	1289, 1291, 1294	Corwine v. Corwine	1717
v. Coote	1707, 1710	Coryton v. Litheby	843, 1772, 1865, 1872, 1873
v. Lowndes	1702		
v. Whittington	265	Cosby v. Gilchrist	432
Coover's Appeal	411	Cosnahan v. Grice	771
Cope, In the Goods of	94	Cosser, In the Goods of	68
v. Cope	1020, 1434, 1694	Costabadie v. Costabadie	1126
v. McFarland	1987	Costeker v. Horrox	2044
Copeland v. McCue	1819	Coster v. Coster	8
v. Stephens	1770	Coswall v. Morgan	520
Copia's Estate	1188	Cotter v. Merrick	817
Copis v. Middleton	1013	Cotteen v. Missing	1770
Copland v. Martin	1016	Cotter v. Laver	192
Copley v. Copley	1300	Cotterell v. Brock	237
v. Day	894, 908	Cottle, Appellant	292, 575
Copp v. Hersey	1441, 1445	v. Aldrich	264, 284, 1944
v. Sawyer	779	v. Tripp	755
Coppin, In re	371	Cotton, In the Goods of	80
v. Carter	1988	v. Clark	2034
v. Coppin	1366, 1450, 1719, 1870	v. Cotton	207, 1133, 1138, 1163, 1263
v. Dillon	110, 453, 427, 428, 545	v. Iles	688
v. Fernyhough	219, 1332	v. Jones	1946
v. Potter	1870	v. Parker	1876
v. ———	847	v. Ulmer	21, 33
Corbin v. Mills	1159, 1163	Cottrell v. Hughes	1676
v. Wilson	1088, 1224, 1225	Cottrell's Estate, In re	1410
Corbitt v. Corbitt	1108	Couch v. Couch	26, 360
Corbyn v. French	1063, 1088, 1130, 1206, 1219	v. Stratton	1493
Cordall's case	689	Coulter's case	265, 269, 588
Corder, In re	82	Coulthurst v. Carter	1211, 1219
Cordeux v. Trasler	427	Counten v. Clerke	1125
Cordrey v. Cordrey	40, 47	County Court v. Looney	540
Corey v. Bath	797	v. Price	534
v. Bishop	731	Court v. Moore	534
v. People	763	Courtenay v. Williams	1304
Corlass, In re	1090, 1497	Courtney v. Ferrers	1439
Corleis v. Little	951	v. Taylor	1020
Corley v. Lord Stafford	552	Courtoy v. Vincent	1647
Corless v. McLagin	730	Cousins v. Paddon	1953, 1965, 1978
Cormack v. Copous	1094	v. Schroder	1240
Cornel v. Lisset	1938	Cousmaker v. Chamberlayne	464, 465
Corneby v. Gibbons	82	Coutant v. Schuyler	774, 777, 779
Corneck v. Wadman	1465	Coutts v. Greenhow	752
Cornelius, Will of, In re	75	Covel v. Deval	1954
Cornell v. Lovett	1276	Covenhoven v. Shuler	1080, 1084, 1085, 1088, 1176, 1393, 1396
Corner v. Shew	1773, 1775, 1783, 1787, 1790, 1938, 1939	Coventry v. Chichester	1301

Coventry v. Coventry	989, 1090, 1399, 1697, 1712	Craig v. Walthall	1446, 1449
v. Higgins	1428	v. Watts	751
v. Williams	106, 107	v. Wheeler	1163
v. Woodhall	814	Craighead v. Given	1216, 1462, 1463
Cowan v. Epes	1239	Craigie v. Lewin	366, 1520, 1521, 1524
Coward, In the Goods of	63	Craik v. Lamb	1114, 1118
v. Gregory	1729, 1999	Crain v. Barnes	1424
Cowden v. Dobyne	325	v. Crain	106, 107
v. Perry	1454	Crallan v. Oulton	2028
Cowdin v. Perry	1931, 2062	Cramer v. Crumbaugh	21
Cowell v. Gatcombe	1822	Cramer's case	669
v. Oxford	1931	Crane v. Baudoine	1768
v. Watts 648, 878, 879, 881, 1873		v. Hopkins	1974
Cowles v. Hays	524, 917	Cranley v. Hale	1478
v. Whitman	2057	Cranmer, Ex parte	38
Cowley v. Harstonge	658	Cranmer's case	698, 699, 1296, 1297
Cowling v. Cowling	1189	Crann v. Green	2005
v. Nansemond Justices	237, 533	Cranswick v. Pearson	1464
Cowman v. Harrison	1126	Cranvel v. Saunders	109, 183
Cowper v. Fletcher	958	Crause v. Cooper	1211
v. Godmond	1940	Cravath v. Plympton	1728, 1730, 1732
v. Mantell	1331	Craven, In re	1108
v. Scott	1530, 1534	v. Brady	1266
Cox, Sir Charles, The Creditors of	1681, 1682, 1683	v. Craven	1444
Cox v. Allingham	1890	Cravens v. Logan	1871
v. Barnard	1015, 1770	Crawford v. Beal	1876
v. Belitha	1542, 1544	v. Brady	857
v. Bennett	1458	v. Commonwealth	534, 540
v. Brown	763, 943	v. Ginn	820
v. Coleman	749	v. Trotter	1083, 1094, 1107, 1110
v. Corkendall	1429, 1712	v. Whittall	878, 883, 1874
v. Cox	1395	Crawford's Trusts, In re	1130, 1136
v. Curwen	1128, 1130, 1136	Crawhall's Trusts, In re	1098, 1217, 1465
v. Dolman	2031	Crawley v. Crawley	1392, 1394
v. Fonblanque	1266	Crawshay v. Collins	1658
v. Godsolve	715, 1187	v. Maule	652
v. Harris	1459	Craxton v. May	1417
v. Joseph	1959	Cray v. Rooke	1015
v. McBurney	668, 689	v. Willis	1377, 1382
v. McKinney	1224, 1232	Creacraft v. Dille	1446
v. Peacock	1983	Creasor v. Robinson	2018
v. Rogers	1441, 1444, 1449	Creath v. Brent	461, 573
v. Slater	2069	Credle v. Credle	1500
Cox's, Lady, case	1015	Creed v. Creed	1160, 1161, 1170, 1171, 1367, 1370, 1371
Will, In re	91	v. Lancaster Bank	1502
Coxe v. Bassett	1693	v. Perry	856
Coye v. Leach	414, 464, 1204	Creely v. Ostrander	39, 352, 357
Cozen's Will	75, 76	Creighton v. Ringle	935
Crabb v. Crabb	1442	Cremorne v. Anthrobus	1186
Crabtree v. Bramble	658	Crenshaw v. Crenshaw	733
Crackelt v. Bethune	1432, 1433, 1851	Cresson v. Stout	730
Craddock v. Riddlesbarger	712	Cresson's Appeal	1069, 1070, 1071, 1072
v. Turner	1979	Cresswell v. Cheslyn	1216
Craddock v. Owen	1475, 1479, 2041	v. Cresswell	464, 1053, 1290
v. Piper	1714, 1853, 1854, 1855	v. Lawson	1085, 1088
Craft v. Wilson	1519	Creswick v. Gaskell	1263, 1273
Craft v. Snook	1193	v. Woodhead	284, 956, 1867
Crafton v. Beal	256	Crichton v. Grierson	1070
v. Frith	1071	v. Symes	1178, 1182
Craig v. Craig	779, 1427, 1459	Crickett v. Dolby	1397, 1425, 1428, 1429
v. Farnell	585	Crigan v. Baines	1260
v. Leslie	12, 660, 662, 665, 1052	Cringan, In the Goods of	245, 370
v. Lester	51, 52	v. Nicholson	1679

<i>Cripps v. Wolcott</i>	1466	<i>Crosse v. Smith</i>	1668
<i>Crisp v. Walpole</i>	68, 350	<i>Crossfield v. Such</i>	631, 650
<i>Crispell v. Dubois</i>	39, 111, 115, 351	<i>Crosskey v. Mills</i>	587
<i>Crispin v. Doglioni</i>	338, 366, 371, 1088,	<i>Crosskill v. Bower</i>	1843
	1515	<i>Crossley v. Elworthy</i>	754
<i>Crissman v. Crissman</i>	759	<i>Crossly v. Clare</i>	1089, 1113
<i>Crist v. Crist</i>	1374	<i>Crossman v. Field</i>	1260
<i>Critchell v. Critchell</i>	637	<i>v. Reade</i>	1311, 1314
<i>Critchett v. Taynton</i>	1091	<i>Crosthwaite v. Dean</i>	172
<i>Crocket v. Crocket</i>	1160, 1322	<i>v. Gardner</i>	1872
<i>Crocker v. Beal</i>	1296, 1297, 1299	<i>Crouch v. Davis</i>	1296, 1297
<i>v. Crocker</i>	1153	<i>Crouse v. Miller</i>	332
<i>v. Smith</i>	650	<i>Crow v. Robinson</i>	1558
<i>Crockerell v. Owerell</i>	931	<i>Crowder v. Clowes</i>	1651
<i>Crockett v. Crain</i>	1743	<i>v. Shackelford</i>	1860
<i>v. Crockett</i>	1094, 1126	<i>v. Stone</i>	850, 1080, 1217, 1263,
<i>Croft v. Arthur</i>	752		1467
<i>v. Bolton</i>	857	<i>Crowe v. Crisford</i>	1163, 1177
<i>v. Croft</i>	103	<i>Crowell v. Kirk</i>	352, 360
<i>v. Day</i>	112, 351, 352	<i>Crowley v. Chipp</i>	540, 543
<i>v. Lyndsey</i>	1808	<i>Crowninshield v. Crowninshield</i>	20, 21
<i>v. Pawlet</i>	93, 101	<i>Crowther v. Evans</i>	1467
<i>v. Pyke</i>	1046	<i>Crozier v. Crozier</i>	1112
<i>v. Walbanke</i>	492	<i>Cruger v. Heyward</i>	1108
<i>v. Waterton</i>	525	<i>Cruikshank v. Roberts</i>	1677
<i>Crofton v. Ilsley</i>	67, 366, 1860	<i>Crum v. Thornley</i>	33
<i>Crofts, In the Goods of</i>	61	<i>Crumb, Ex parte</i>	66
<i>v. Middleton</i>	1084	<i>Crump v. Gerock</i>	1844
<i>Croke v. Watts</i>	442	<i>Crunkleton v. Wilson</i>	257, 261
<i>Croker v. Hertford, Lord</i>	98, 130, 372	<i>Cruse v. Barley</i>	1230
<i>Crolius v. Stark</i>	38, 40	<i>Crusoe v. Bugby</i>	940
<i>Croly v. Weld</i>	1360	<i>v. Butler</i>	347, 654
<i>Cromek v. Lumb</i>	1234, 1236, 1250,	<i>Crutcher v. Crutcher</i>	67
	1467	<i>Crutchfield v. Pearce</i>	1088
<i>Cromer v. Pinckney</i>	1080, 1099, 1104	<i>Cruttenden v. Fuller</i>	373
<i>Crommelin v. Crommelin</i>	1277, 1279	<i>Cruwys v. Colman</i>	1117, 1125
<i>Crompton v. Sale</i>	1335	<i>Cryden's Appeal</i>	1367
<i>Cronan v. Coting</i>	1676, 1775	<i>Cryder's Appeal</i>	204, 1159, 1161, 1359,
<i>Crone v. Odell</i>	1082, 1090		1705, 1720
<i>Cronkhit v. Cronkhit</i>	1704	<i>Cryer v. Goodhand</i>	266
<i>Crook v. Hill</i>	1099, 1101, 1102	<i>Cryst v. Cryst</i>	808
<i>v. Watt</i>	1496	<i>Cabbage v. Cabbage</i>	21
<i>v. Whitley</i>	1098, 1100, 1219	<i>Cabbidge v. Boatwright</i>	917, 937
<i>Crooke v. Brookeing</i>	1098	<i>Culling v. Tuffnal</i>	728
<i>v. De Vandes</i>	1114, 1462	<i>Cullum v. Seymour</i>	345
<i>Crookenden v. Fuller</i>	1517, 1519	<i>Culver v. Haslam</i>	346
<i>Crooks v. Jewell</i>	687	<i>Cullwick v. Swindell</i>	740
<i>Cropper v. Knapman</i>	2021	<i>Cumberland v. Codrington</i>	1697, 1700, 1701
<i>Crosbie v. McDoual</i>	8, 213, 217	<i>Cumberland's, Countess of, case</i>	709
<i>Crosby v. Covington</i>	1499	<i>Cumming v. Fraser</i>	549
<i>v. Gaering</i>	1990	<i>Cummins v. Cummins</i>	1287
<i>v. Gilchrist</i>	430	<i>Cundy v. Medley</i>	74
<i>v. Leavitt</i>	430, 563	<i>Cunliffe v. Cross</i>	350
<i>v. Mason</i>	1909	<i>Cunningham, Re</i>	91, 95, 144
<i>v. Wadsworth</i>	715	<i>v. Baker</i>	1876
<i>Crosland v. Murdock</i>	549	<i>v. Cunningham</i>	1219, 1458
<i>Crosley, In the Goods of</i>	212	<i>v. Moody</i>	658
<i>v. Clare</i>	1153, 1155	<i>v. Murray</i>	1094
<i>v. Archdeacon of Sudbury</i>	527	<i>v. Ross</i>	84, 1326, 1327
<i>Cross v. Brown</i>	335, 1679	<i>v. Seymour</i>	313
<i>v. Kennington</i>	2037	<i>v. Souza</i>	237
<i>v. Maltby</i>	1086	<i>Curlewis v. Lord Mornington</i>	1884, 1952
<i>v. Smith</i>	1827	<i>Curling v. Curling</i>	1076
<i>v. Woodhull</i>	1084	<i>v. May</i>	658
<i>Crosse v. Cocke</i>	1048	<i>v. Thornton</i>	366, 367, 1515, 1523

Curre v. Bowyer	660, 1763, 1917	Dakin v. Cope	1795
Currey, In the Goods of	448, 525	Daland v. Williams	1395
Currie v. Bircham	361, 432	Dalbaic v. Dalbaic	61
v. Gould	1464	Dalby, In re	2002
v. Pye	1291, 1293	v. Smith	15
Currier v. Lowell	894	Dale v. Eyre	1936
Curry v. Fulkinson	871	v. Hamilton	652
v. Pile	1290	v. Lincoln	758
Cursham v. Newland	1112	v. Roosevelt	903
Curtis v. Blow	2049	v. White	1230, 1232
v. Burt	416, 452	Dalghren v. Duncan	1743
v. Curtis	377, 1090	Dalhousie, Countess of, v. McDonall,	1517, 1518, 1522
v. Fulbrook	655	Dallam v. Dallam	1086
v. Herrick	820	Dallow, In the Goods of	80, 98
v. Hunt	1969	Dalrymple v. Dalrymple	371
v. Hutton	1068, 1074	Dalton, Re	1901
v. Lukin	1238, 1398	v. Midland Counties Railway	848
v. Mansfield	1740	Company	1084
v. Price	753	v. Scales	797
v. Sutter	820	v. South Eastern Railway	185
v. Vernon	267, 268, 269, 633	Company	293
v. Williams	416, 452	Daly v. Daly	1825
Curtiss v. Beardsley	574	v. Mahon	373, 1523
Cushing v. Aylwin	6, 221, 375, 1088	Daly's Estate	1082, 1112
v. Field	988, 1972	Settlement, Re	728
Cushman v. Horton	1108, 1109	Dalzell v. Welsh	188, 190
Cust v. Goring	786	Dame v. Dame	428, 463
Custance v. Bradshaw	623	Damon v. Damon	137, 138, 140, 147, 347,
Custa v. Adkins	1428	Dampier v. Colson	380
Cutbush v. Cutbush	1793	Dan v. Brown	1801
Cuthbert v. Cuthbert	1170	Dana v. Prescott	972
v. Purrier	1267, 1420	Dana's case	148
v. Wolfe	750	Dancer v. Crabb	1994
Cutlar v. Quince	442	Dancy v. Pope	2043
Cutler, In re	1413	Dando v. Dando	1693
v. Middlesex Man'f'g Co.	1798	Dandridge v. Minge	847
Cutter v. Butler 53, 54, 56, 61, 62, 63, 846	1929	Dane v. Allen	1241
v. Davenport	1082	Danforth v. Talbot	361, 362
v. Doughty	1946, 2023	Dangerfield v. Thurston	33, 48, 360, 1144, 1156
Cutterback v. Smith	1684	Daniel v. Daniel	1131, 1133
Cutting v. Derby	823	v. Dudley	1871
v. Gilman 770, 774, 775, 776, 781	793, 796	v. Hollingshead	2012
v. Tower	162, 163, 165	v. Lehre	208
Cutts v. Gilbert	291, 563, 575, 1522	v. Nockolds	1106, 1163, 1177
v. Haskins		v. Warren	731
D.		Daniels v. Pond	691, 854
Dabbs v. Chisman 340, 425, 440, 444, 584		v. Richardson	1872
Dabney v. Cottrell	1189	v. Richie	1088, 1514
v. Manning	654	Dannelli v. Dannelli	1166
Dabol v. Field	2006	Danvers v. Manning	1679
Da Costa v. Kew	1261, 1263	Danzey v. Smith	549
Da Cunha, Countess, In the Goods		Darbey v. Mayer	97
of	429, 449, 484	Darby, In the Goods of	666
Dacre v. Patrickson	1477, 1478, 1702	v. Darby	366
Dadds, In the Goods of	141, 381	v. Mayer	229
Dady v. Hartridge	1169, 1693, 1696	Darke, In the Goods of	758
Daggett v. Slack	1108, 1109	Darkin v. Darkin	1081
Dagley v. Tolferry	1405, 1409	Darley v. Martin	2022
D'Agli v. Freyer	1163	v. Nicholson	320, 385, 452
D'Aguiar v. Drinkwater	1279	Darling, In the Goods of	1815
Daintry v. Daintry	1088	v. Hammer	10, 11
		Darlington, Lord, v. Paltenev	121
		Darnbrooke v. Silverside	

Da Rosa v. Da Pinna	234, 450, 965	Davis v. Chanter	445, 523, 525
Darragh v. M'Nair	1474, 1490	v. Connelly	259
Darrant v. Field	1099	v. Cowdin	2060
Darrel v. Eden	1844	v. Crane	1164
v. Molesworth	1219	v. Davis 275, 379, 1451, 1522,	1897
Darston v. Lord Oxford	1037	v. Dendy	1859
Darthez v. Winter	2012	v. Dowding	1715
Darwell v. Darwell	1833	v. Duke	1500
Dashiell v. Atty. Gen.	1070, 1076	v. Elmes	1305
v. Dashiell	1806	v. Estey	362, 1515, 1664
Dashwood v. Bulkeley	1278, 1279	v. Eyton	717
v. Peyton	1088	v. French	1776
Da Silva, In the Goods of	190, 213	v. Gardiner	1695
Daubeney v. Coghlan	1154	v. Jenkins	1057
Davage v. Davage	1956	v. Jones	730, 736
Davall v. New River Company	811	v. King	1458
Davant v. Pope	534	v. McNeill	1860
Davenhill v. Fletcher	1364	v. Newman	1450, 1451
Davenport v. Bishop	1261, 1263	v. Newton	1414
v. Coltman	665, 1079, 1153	v. Nicholson	1358
v. First Cong. Society	1799	v. Norton	1084
v. Hanbury	1098, 1112, 1513	v. Phillips	362
v. Stafford	2031	v. Powell	704
Davers v. Dewes	1460, 1480, 1497	v. Rawlins	1860
Daves v. Haywood	1016, 1498	v. Reyner	1779
David v. Frowd	1357, 1358, 1452, 2007	v. Salter	2003
Davidson v. Chalmers	1267	v. Shuler	1892
v. Dallas	1090, 1245	v. Sigourney	157, 162, 380
v. De Freest	668	v. Simpson	938
v. Graves	756	v. Smith	1941
v. Potts	650	v. Spurling	1821, 1826
Davie v. Beardsham	659	v. State	360
Davies, In the Goods of	80, 88, 418, 508	v. Taul	1088
Will, In re	1513	v. Walford	1820
v. Ashford	1705	v. Wilkinson	1740
v. Ansten	1409	v. Williams	1893
v. Bailey	1118	v. Wright	1779
v. Churchman	1693	v. Yerby	959, 1808, 2029
v. Davies 133, 157, 352, 1874, 2021		Davis's Estate	192
v. Fisher 1232, 1233, 1235, 1245		Davisme v. Mellish	1116
v. Goodhew	658	Davoue v. Fanning	650, 655, 938, 1843
v. Hodgson	1836	Davy, In the Goods of	358
v. Huguenin	1094, 1097	Re	1153
v. Lowndes	1882, 1951	v. Pepys	1693
v. Monkhouse	1029	v. Smith	91
v. Morgan	1169	Davys v. Boucher	1333, 1334, 1835
v. Morris	75	Dawes, In the Goods of	496
v. Nicholson	1340, 1452	v. Boylston	289, 362, 340, 650, 1515, 1664
v. Queen's Proctor	252, 382	v. Head	362, 1515, 1664
v. Swan	1424	v. Scott	1706
v. Thorns	1465	v. Shed	1803
v. Thornycroft	751	v. Swan	1080, 1088
v. Wattier	1403	Dawkins v. Tatham	1647
v. Williams	956, 1911	Dawley v. Balfrey	1405
Davies v. Mead	1941	Daws v. Taylor	1875
Davis, In the Goods of	79, 96, 240, 1457	Dawson, In the Goods of	415
In re	88	v. Bourne	1094
v. Angel	1267	v. Callaway	264
v. Ashford	658	v. Clark	1478, 1480, 1481
v. Bennett	1463, 1513	v. Dawson 100, 105, 1102, 1301,	1333
v. Blackwell	1352	v. Gregory	1988
v. Brandon	961	v. Hearn	1196
v. Cain	750	v. Kearston	1015
v. Calvert 21, 26, 37, 40, 45, 46, 47,			
49, 50, 360			

Dawson v. Killett	1254	Deeks v. Strutt	294, 1780, 1931, 1932,
v. Massey	1278, 1844		1933, 2062
v. Oliver	1091	Deering v. Adams	281, 302, 1796
v. Smith	147	v. Torrington	1675
v. Thorne	1480	v. Tucker	1909
Dawson's Appeal	121	Deffis v. Goldschmidt	1088, 1092
Day, Ex parte	11	De Feucheres v. Dawes	501
In the Goods of	253	De Flechier, Succession of	575
v. Barnard	1098	De Fries v. Conklin	749
v. Chatfield	255, 310	Deg v. Deg	2052
v. Croft	9, 1295	De Garagnol v. Liardet	1467
v. Day 19, 111, 115, 350, 351, 376,		De Gendre v. Kent	837
380, 381, 1085, 1195, 1243, 1765		Degraffenreid v. Scruggs	730, 740
v. Pargrave	847, 849	D'Huart v. Harkness	374
v. Perkins	740	Deichman, In the Goods of	247, 284
v. Radcliffe	1248	Deighmiller's Estate	1396
v. Savadge	1026	De Kay v. Irving	1080
v. Thompson	443	De la Farque, In the Goods of	544
Dayhuff v. Dayhuff	1876	Delafield v. Calden	2039
Dayton v. Fisher	759	v. Hand	371
Deaderick v. Cantrell	1827, 1833	v. Parish 21, 33, 40, 45, 342, 346	
Deaf & Dumb Institute v. Norwood	1154	De la Garde v. Lempriere	1417, 1418
Deakins v. Buckley	972	Delamater's Estate	1189
v. Hollis	67, 1085	De Lancey, In re	622, 658, 1588
Dean v. Allaley	745	v. The Queen	1567
v. Allen	1344, 1345	Delany v. Noble	575
v. Biggers	650	De la Salle v. Moorat	2009
v. Dalton	1478	Delaunay v. Burnett	1496
v. Davidson	318	De la Viesca v. Lubbock	439
v. Dean 21, 37, 67, 89, 90, 103, 347,		Delay v. Vinal	1449
352, 650, 778, 783, 959		Delmare v. Robello	1154, 1199
v. Lord Delaware	1540, 1541	Delmonico v. Guillaume	666
v. Duffield	950	Delmotte v. Taylor	771, 774
v. Gibson	1182, 1185	Demarest v. Wynkoop	687
v. Handley	1261	De Mazar v. Pybus	1479
v. Portis	989	Dembyn v. Brown	854
v. Negley	46, 47	Demere v. Scranton	1452
v. Rathbone	1804, 1806	Demert v. Heth	539
v. Russell	375	Deming v. Bailey	857
Deane v. Deane	206	Demmy's Appeal	1946
v. Home for Aged Women	2038	Demond v. Boston	793, 796, 1734
v. Littlefield	15, 16	Demott v. Field	1873
v. Test	1165	Dempsey v. King	415
Deardaley v. Fleming	52	Dempsey's Will	283
Dearne v. Grim	1978	Den v. Allen	656
Deas v. Spann	1804, 1806	v. Barnes	1035
De Barante v. Gott	752	v. Bolick	1199
De Beauvoir v. De Beauvoir	658, 1109	v. Creveling	658, 1088
Deberry v. Irey	1667	v. English	1086
Debeze v. Mann	1337	v. Johnson	33, 40
De Blaquiére v. De Blaquiére	846	v. McMurtrie	1078, 1079, 1080
De Bode, In the Goods of	134, 151	v. Manners	6
De Bode, Baron v. Reginam	371	v. Matlock	89
Debol v. Lowen	1108	v. Milton	88, 89, 91, 94
De Bonneval v. De Bonneval	367, 1517,	v. Mugway	1086
	1518	v. Payne	1178
Debow v. Colfax	715	v. Snowhill	658
Decamp v. Hall	1215, 1461	v. Taylor	1086
De Chatelain v. De Pontigny	54, 497	v. Van Cleave	33, 40
Decker v. Elmwood	2060	v. Zabriskie	1108
v. Fisher	705	Denby, In re	1284
v. Miller	2038, 2039	Denison's Appeal	359
De Costa v. De Pas	1056, 1058	Denn v. Allen	1474
De Couche v. Savetier	1664	v. Gaskin	201
De Diemar v. Van Wagenen	1799, 1800	v. Milton	347

Denn v. Puckey	1081	Dewar v. Maitland	1444, 1449
Dennet v. Hopkinson	1182	Dewart's Appeal	1205
Dennett v. Dennett	1084, 1088, 1096	Dewdney, Ex parte	1803
v. Hopkinson	713, 714	Dewey v. Bayntum	755
Dennington v. Mitchell	410, 1119	v. Dewey	77, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 93, 103
Dennis v. Dennis	220, 221	v. Goodenough	410
v. Warder	221	De Witt v. Schoonmaker	1931
Denny v. Barton	104, 163	Dewitt v. Barley	346
v. Booker	1730	v. Yates	1153, 1289
De Nottebeck v. Astor	1080	De Witte v. De Witte	1090, 1094
Densler v. Edwards	261, 263	Dexheimer v. Gautier	771
Denslow v. Moore	47	Dexter v. Arnold	1844
Denson v. Beasley	29, 30, 33, 37	v. Gardner	1073, 1076
v. Mitchell	1081, 1087, 1088, 1153	Dey v. Dey	1712, 1717
Denston, In the Goods of	379	v. Williams	1297
Dent v. Allcroft	1068	Deyo v. Jones	1947
v. Askey	1929	De Zichy Ferraris v. Croker	372
v. Pepys	1087	v. Lord Hertford	90, 98, 130, 216, 366, 1515
Denton v. Davy	1858	Dick v. Lacy	1113, 1115
v. Franklin	77, 88	v. Pitchford	751
v. Lord John Manners	1063	Dicken v. Clarker	1220, 1271
De Peyster v. Clarkson	1846, 1851	v. Colton	1454
v. Clendenning	6, 221, 282, 375, 1088, 1176, 1287, 1396	v. Johnson	346
Depit v. Delerieleuse	443	Dickenson v. Blissat	17
De Pradel, In the Goods of	384	v. Callahan	1726
Derby v. Derby	1070, 1076, 1426	v. Dickenson	111
Derbyshire v. Home	964	v. Lord Holland	2028
Deeboddy v. Boyville	1279	v. Naul	587
Descrambes v. Tomkins	1429, 1431	Dickerson v. Robinson	540, 956, 1978
Desesbats v. Berginer	366	Dickey v. Malechi	380
Desesbat v. Berquier	1515, 1664	Dickie v. Carter	47, 87
Des Haie, In the Goods of	366	Dickin, In the Goods of	97
De Sobry v. De Laistre	366, 371, 990, 1515, 1664	v. Edwards	1171, 1711
Despard v. Churchill	226	Dickins, In the Goods of	97
Despatch Line of Packets v. Bellamy		Dickinson v. Barber	346, 360
Manuf. Co.	730, 734, 739, 740	v. Dickinson	53, 87
De Tastet v. Andrade	1983	v. Dutcher	1801
v. Shaw	1017, 1044	v. Lee	1098
De Themmines v. Bonneval	1056, 1057, 1075	v. M'Craw	361, 1892
De Trafford v. Tempest	1461	v. Moss	47
D'Eyncourt v. Gregory	739	v. North Eastern Railway	796
Deupree v. Deupree	192	v. Purvis	1221
De Valengin v. Duffy	1656	v. Stidolph	98, 100, 101, 143, 153, 165, 212
Devane v. Larkins	1225, 1241	v. Swatman	153, 181
Devanport v. Irvin	575	v. Teasdale	2031
Devaynes v. Noble	1196, 1743	Dicks v. Lambert	1192, 1479
v. Robinson	2015	Dickson, In the Goods of	330
De Veaux v. De Veaux	1091	v. Compton	1802
Deveney v. Mahoney	666	v. Montgomery	1076
Devenish v. Bains	45	v. Wilkinson	1953
Devereux v. Barnwell	1832	Dickson's Trusts, In re	1274
v. Bullock	71, 74	Didlake v. Hooper	1261
Devey v. Edwards	537	Dieterich's Estate	345
v. Thornton	501	Dietrick v. Dietrick	50
Deviese v. Pontet	1297	Dieterich v. Heft	1851, 1860
De Vigny, In the Goods of	366	Diaz, In re	10, 11
Devisme v. Mello	1090, 1093	Diffenderffer v. Winder	1846, 1847, 1848, 1851
Devling v. Little	946	Digby v. Boycott	1388
Devon, Duke of, v. Atkins	1371	v. Howard	762
v. Pawlett	786	v. Legard	1330
Dew v. Clarke	28, 38, 500	v. Wray	588, 591
De Wall's, Count, case	1522		

Dikes v. Woodhouse	1871	Doe v. Barford	197
Dilkes v. Broadmead	933, 1451, 1692	v. Bennett	1193
Dill v. Dill	1088	v. Bevan	940, 941
Dillard v. Tomlinson	1844	v. Biggs	1084
Dillaye v. Com. Bank	935	v. Birkhead	1217
Dillabaugh's Estate	1808	v. Brabant	1269
Dilley v. Matthews	1101, 1155	v. Buckner	1153
Dillman v. Cox	1502	v. Burdett	89
Dillon v. Coppin	1501, 1503	v. Calvert	562
v. Harris	98, 1084	v. Challis	1269
v. Parker	1441, 1442, 1443, 1449	v. Chichester	1153, 1442
Dilner v. Leech	1139	v. Child	1083, 1088
Dilworth v. Rice	654	v. Clarke	1090
Dimes v. Dimes	28	v. Collins	1153
v. Scott	1391, 1392, 1394, 1813	v. Considine	1232, 1261
v. Steinberg	501	v. Cooper	1080, 1081
Dimmock v. Bixby	1909	v. Copestake	1057, 1071, 1076
Dimock's case	993	v. Cranstoun	1079
Dingle v. Dingle	72	v. Cross	104, 105
Dingley v. Dingley	1224, 1225	v. Danvers	561
Dingwell v. Askew	1325	v. David	638
Dinkins v. Bailey	534	v. Davies	101, 1084
Dinmore, In the Goods of	88	v. Davy	212
Dinning v. Henderson	1692	v. Deakin	318
Dinsdale v. Dudding	2031, 2049	v. Dorvell	1093
Di Sora v. Philllips	371, 1088	v. Dring	1088, 1153
Ditchfield, In the Goods of	465	v. Edlin	188, 198
Dix v. Burford	1379, 1899, 1806, 1821, 1828, 2031	v. Evans	97, 174, 212, 616, 649
v. Reed	1281, 1283	v. Everts	1107
Dixon v. Allinson	338	v. Ewart	1082, 1106
v. Buller	1065	v. Fallows	936, 937
v. Butler	1072	v. Featherstone	1081
v. Dawson	664, 665	v. Flemming	1127
v. Dixon	751, 871, 1129, 1420	v. Gallini	1080, 1081
v. Gayfere	658	v. Glenn	406
v. McCue	1449	v. Goff	1081
v. Ramsay	293, 361, 366, 1515, 1776, 1782	v. Greatbed	1153
Dixon's Appeal	144	v. Greening	1088, 1153
Doane v. Lake	201	v. Griffin	318
Dobson, In re	190	v. Gunning	1890
v. Carpenter	1344	v. Guy	1378, 1901, 1933
v. Cracherode	462	v. Halley	1081
Dobyns v. McGovern	429	v. Harris	137, 184, 1075, 1376
Docker v. Somes	1846, 1851	v. Harvey	1080, 1081
Dockey v. McDonald	1819	v. Haslewood	1079
Dockum v. Robinson	121, 122	v. Hawthorn	1055, 1072
Dod v. Dod	919	v. Hersey	87
Dodge v. Burdell	1777	v. Hicks	185, 1088
v. Dodge	1445	v. Hiscocks	1154, 1155, 1199
v. Manning	1707	v. Hole	214
v. Meech	352	v. Hughes	656
Dodgson, In the Goods of	520, 522	v. Huthwaite	1088
Trust, In re	1086, 1227, 1263	v. Jackson	88
Dodson v. Ball	751	v. Jersey	1088, 1153, 1199
v. Hay	658	v. Jesson	318, 1081
v. Sammel	1344, 1345	v. Joinville	1199
v. Simpson	935, 936, 937	v. Lancashire	194, 197
Dodswell v. Earle	859	v. Langton	1153
Doe v. Aldridge	1057, 1071, 1075	v. Lawson	1124
v. Allcock	1088	v. Lewis	684, 685
v. Allen	1154, 1199	v. Llandaff	204
v. Applin	1080, 1081	v. Lyde	678
v. Ashley	1153	v. Mabblerley	1375
		v. Manifold	92
		v. Marchant	212



Doe v. Martin	1153	Dole v. Irish	575
v. Maxey	1084	v. Johnson	1178, 1182, 1185, 1396, 1796
v. Mew	1890	v. Lincoln	771, 774, 775, 781
v. Micklem	1085	v. Stimson	1229
v. Mills	1054	Dollen v. Batt	675
v. Moore	1246	Dollond v. Johnson	999, 1035
v. Morgan	1199	Dolman v. Smith	1705, 1708, 1709
v. Needs	1199	Dolphin v. Robins	372, 1522
v. Nepean	318	Domestic and Foreign Missions	1153
v. Nowell	1246	Appeal	1153
v. Ormerod	562	Domestic and Foreign Missions v. Reynold	1153
v. Palmer	359, 360	Dominick v. Michael	654
v. Pattison	10	v. Moore	1088, 1224
v. Pearse	1083	v. Sayre	108
v. Perkes	139	Dommatt v. Bedford	1266
v. Perratt	1079	Domville's Trusts	1219
v. Perry	1088	Don v. Lippman	366, 371, 1088
v. Pitcher	1073, 1075	Donald v. Bather	2016
v. Polgrean	695	v. McWhorter	968
v. Porter	678, 792	v. Mateer	1499
v. Pratt	1079	Donaldson, In the Goods of	117
v. Frigg	1093, 1219, 1263, 1465	v. Donaldson	832
v. Rawding	1084, 1085, 1088	v. Raborg	478, 2029
v. Reade	1082	Doncaster v. Doncaster	658, 715
v. Reagan	346	Donegal's, Lord, case	45
v. Roberts	1153	Doneldson v. Fusey	1853
v. Robertson	12	Donisthorpe v. Porter	688
v. Robinson	684	Donn v. Penny	677, 1107, 1110
v. Roe	96	Donne v. Hart	690
v. Rouse	1155	v. Lewis	1693
v. Royle	1464	Donnell v. Mateer	1106
v. Rucastle	1112	Donnington v. Mitchell	872
v. Sabin	1867	Donovan v. Needham	1429
v. Scott	1269	Doo v. Brabant	1219, 1220, 1271
v. Shipphard	1271	Doody v. Higgins	1108
v. Shotter	654	v. Pierce	345
v. Smith	1080, 1081, 1082	Doolittle v. Hilton	1931
v. Staple	192	v. Lewis	361, 362, 364, 432, 1929
v. Steele	682	Door v. Geary	1202
v. Stenlake	1085	Dorah v. Dorah	763
v. Stewart	750	Doran v. Simpson	2020
v. Strickland	156	Dorchester v. Webb	287, 956, 1310, 1311, 1313, 1318
v. Sturges	1380, 1382	Dorin v. Dorin	1099
v. Suckermore	348, 349	Dorland v. Dorland	655
v. Tatchell	1384	Dormer v. Burnet	1437
v. Thompson	1078	Dormoy, In the Goods of	429
v. Tofield	1079	Dornford v. Dornford	1433, 1805
v. Uthwaite	1199	Dornforth v. Dornforth	1845
v. Vardill	1516	Dorr v. Wainwright	461, 1396, 1399, 1796
v. Walker	212, 214, 215, 222, 1438	Dorrett v. Meux	1890, 1892
v. Ward	1246	Dorrick v. Reichenback	40
v. Waterton	1060	Dorset, Duke of, v. Hawarden	1154
v. Westlake	1199	Dorsett v. Frith	267
v. Westley	1083	Dorsey v. Dorsey	432, 1191, 1261, 1515
v. Wheeler	1869	v. Hammond	1953
v. Wilkinson	1088	v. Sheppard	117
v. Wood	605, 679	v. Smithson	261
v. Wright	1083, 1088	v. Tunis	991
v. Wrighte	1075	v. Warfield	87, 346
Doe dem. Strickland v. Roe	1937	Dorsheimer v. Bucher	991
Doebler v. Snavely	2029	v. Rorbach	350, 351
Doebler's Appeal	1079, 1080, 1086		
Doker v. Goff	85		
Dolan v. Macdermot	1076, 1077		
Dolben v. Bath	818		

Dortch v. Dortch	1808, 1844	Drake v. Drake	1154
Dorville v. Wolff	1465	v. Green	238, 575
Dotts v. Fetzter	360	v. Martin	1162, 1818
Douce, In the Goods of	76	v. Munday	817
Doud v. Sanders	1804	v. Pell	658, 663, 1133
Dougherty v. Dougherty	1094	v. Randall	1956
v. Van Nostrand	652	Drakeford v. Drakeford	1216, 1465
Doughty v. Bull	658	Drane v. Bayliis	1796
v. Saltwell	1084	Draper v. Hitch	57, 354, 356
v. Stillwell	1323	v. Jackson	691, 759, 847
Douglas v. Andrews	1217	Draper's case	690
v. Chalmer	1260, 1263	Draughton v. French	932
v. Congreve	1081, 1189, 1391, 1392, 1652	Drayton, In re	255, 275
v. Cooper	57	v. Drayton	1098
v. Douglas	221, 222, 223, 1438	v. Grimke	650
v. Feay	1444	Drenkle v. Sharman	539
v. Fellows	1152, 1154, 1155	Drevon v. Drevon	1517, 1519
v. Forrest	274, 309, 1944, 1950	Drew v. Drew	1517
v. Fraser	1776	v. Gordon	763
v. Irlam	1869	v. Towle	1876
v. Satterlee	1821	v. Wakefield	1070, 1076, 1077, 1116, 1117, 1268, 1458, 1459
v. Smith	70, 171	Drewe v. Long	537, 540
Douglas's, Sir Charles, case	1515	Drewry v. Baron	1088
Douglass v. Satterlee	946	v. Thacker	1033, 1038, 1914, 1916, 1917, 1919, 1980, 2049
Douthitt v. Douthitt	1669	Drinkwater, In the Goods of	447
Dove v. Everard	1830	v. Drinkwater	649, 650, 1656
Dover, Ex parte	1399	v. Falconer	1166, 1168, 1324, 1331
Dover v. Alexander	1101	Driver v. Frank	1088, 1095
v. Gregory	1287	v. Ferrard	1710
Dow v. Dow	1080	v. Standing	193
v. Doyle	1219, 1464	Drohan v. Drohan	939
Dowbiggen v. Bourne	1014	Druce v. Denison	107, 694, 1490
v. Harrison	893, 1873, 1896	Drue v. Baylie	648, 918, 921, 932
Dowd v. Tucker	45, 552	Drummond, case of	371
Dowdale's case	1662	In the Goods of	98, 389
Dowding v. Smith	1513	v. Atty. Gen.	1057
Dowdy v. Graham	576	v. Drummond	366
Dower v. Jansen	1153	v. Parish	117
Dowley v. Winfield	318, 1420	Drury v. Natick	7, 242, 293, 654, 1051, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072, 1077, 1796, 1909
Dowling v. Tyrell	1425	v. Smith	774, 782
Dowling's Trusts, In re	1262	Drury's, Doctor, case	592
Down v. Worrall	960, 1076	Drybatter v. Bartholomew	811
Downe v. Morris	1692	v. Hodges	104
Downer, Re	159	Drysdale's Appeal	938
v. Downer	650	Duane, In the Goods of	377
Downes v. Bullock	1119, 1123, 2023, 2031	Duberley v. Day	690
v. Power	2052	Dublin v. Chadbourn	293, 549, 550
Downey v. Murphy	39, 114, 115, 350, 351	Du Bois v. Ray	1086, 1088, 1153
Downing v. Bain	1088, 1424	Dubois v. Trant	582
v. Lindsay	1885	Duckworth v. Butler	1335
v. Marshall	1091, 1216, 1459	v. Johnson	1502
v. Townsend	1189, 1437	Dudley v. Warde	728, 733, 738, 741
Downs v. Collins	1658, 1792	Dudleys v. Dudleys	87, 102, 103
Downward v. Dickinson	443	Dufaur v. Croft	112, 351, 352
Dowse v. Coxo	908, 1771, 1776	Duff, In the Goods of	97
v. Percival	1548, 1676	Duffee v. Buchanan	1310
Dowset v. Sweet	1152, 1199, 1215	Duffel v. Burton	204
Dowson v. Gaskion	1190, 1456	Duffie v. Corridon	91
Doyle v. Blake	274, 277, 278, 1801, 1809, 1829, 1834, 1836	Duffield v. Elwes	212, 771, 777, 778, 783
Doyley v. Tollferry	1405		
Drake v. Atty. Gen.	627		
v. Coltraine	1013		



<b>Eastwood v. Vinke</b>	1298	<b>Edwards v. Edwards</b>	970, 1016, 1112, 1260, 1261, 1263, 2046
<b>Easum v. Appleford</b>	1215, 1459	<b>v. Evans</b>	820
<b>Eatherly v. Eatherly</b>	1085	<b>v. Freeman</b>	1483, 1497, 1499, 1502, 1539, 1697
<b>Eaton v. Barker</b>	1265, 1465	<b>v. Grace</b>	880, 1794, 1873
<b>v. B., C. &amp; M. R. R.</b>	1178	<b>v. Hall</b>	1061, 1062, 1066, 1068, 1161
<b>v. Benafield</b>	534	<b>v. Hammond</b>	1246
<b>v. Benton</b>	1297, 1298, 1299, 1768, 1769	<b>v. Harben</b>	261, 755
<b>v. Cole</b>	1801	<b>v. Jones</b>	771, 773
<b>v. Hewitt</b>	1277	<b>v. Lowndes</b>	1935
<b>v. Jacques</b>	1754	<b>v. Saloway</b>	1207, 1219
<b>v. Sauxter</b>	660	<b>v. Smith</b>	105, 106
<b>v. Smith</b>	954	<b>v. Tuck</b>	663
<b>v. Watts</b>	108	<b>v. Warwick, Countess of</b>	658, 661, 837
<b>Eaves v. Mocato</b>	1896	<b>Eedes v. Eedes</b>	1416
<b>v. Hickson</b>	1804	<b>Eelbeck v. Granberry</b>	88
<b>Eavestaff v. Austin</b>	1239, 1370	<b>Eeles, In the Goods of</b>	151
<b>Eby v. Eby</b>	1108	<b>v. Lambert</b>	1022, 1342
<b>Eccard v. Brooke</b>	1085, 1114	<b>Effinger v. Richards</b>	1860
<b>Eccles v. Birkett</b>	1235	<b>Egbert v. Butter</b>	1828
<b>v. Cheyne</b>	1221	<b>Egerton v. Egerton</b>	774
<b>Eccleston v. Clipsham</b>	1866	<b>v. Lord Brownlow</b>	1259, 1265
<b>Echols v. Barrett</b>	302, 575, 630	<b>Egg v. Devey</b>	1258
<b>Eckersley v. Platt</b>	103, 157	<b>Egginton's Trusts, In re</b>	1465
<b>Eckert v. Flowry</b>	50	<b>Eglin v. Sanderson</b>	2035
<b>Eddals v. Johnson</b>	1153	<b>Egremont v. Thompson</b>	890
<b>Eddels v. Johnson</b>	1896	<b>Ehrenberg, Succession of</b>	104
<b>Eddings v. Long</b>	1109	<b>Eichelberger v. Barnitz</b>	1106, 1176, 1389, 1393, 1396
<b>Eddins v. Buck</b>	758	<b>v. Morris</b>	1310
<b>Eddowes v. Eddowes</b>	1092	<b>Eilbeck v. Wood</b>	204
<b>Edelen v. Dent</b>	1296, 1297, 1298, 1299	<b>Eisenbise v. Eisenbise</b>	650
<b>v. Edelen</b>	1852	<b>Ela v. Edwards</b>	61, 62, 83, 87, 88, 90, 93, 97, 103, 347, 352, 362, 647, 1664, 1929
<b>v. Hardy</b>	91, 92, 93	<b>Eland v. Eland</b>	937, 1931
<b>Eden v. Lexington &amp; Frankfort R. R.</b>	796	<b>Elden v. Keddell</b>	1892, 1893
<b>v. Smyth</b>	1303	<b>Elder v. Littler</b>	265, 266
<b>v. Williams</b>	1153	<b>Elderton, In the Goods of</b>	438
<b>Edgar v. Reynolds</b>	434, 939	<b>Elf v. Cole</b>	763
<b>v. Shields</b>	883, 1387, 1450, 1452, 1862	<b>Elfresh v. Guard</b>	91
<b>Edgcomb v. Dee</b>	1034, 1956, 1964	<b>Elibank v. Montolien</b>	869, 1308, 1414, 1415
<b>Edgeworth v. Edgeworth</b>	1078	<b>Eliot v. Carter</b>	1082
<b>Edgington's Trust, Re</b>	1123	<b>Elkenhead's case</b>	1332
<b>Edmonds, In the Goods of</b>	86, 329	<b>Ellam v. Westley</b>	1088
<b>v. Crenshaw</b>	946, 1821, 1822, 1859, 2032	<b>Ellicock v. Mapp</b>	1478
<b>v. Peake</b>	1818	<b>Elles v. Appleby</b>	1875
<b>Edmondson's Estate, In re</b>	1086	<b>Ellice, In the Goods of</b>	154
<b>Edmunds v. Low, In re</b>	1299	<b>v. Goodson</b>	524
<b>v. Bird</b>	499	<b>Ellicott v. Peterson</b>	1267
<b>v. Fessey</b>	1101	<b>v. Welch</b>	1953
<b>v. Unwin</b>	375	<b>Ellinger v. Crowe</b>	754
<b>v. Waugh</b>	2031	<b>Ellington v. Dillard</b>	117
<b>Edmundson v. Cox</b>	1534	<b>Elliott v. Bishop</b>	727
<b>v. Roberts</b>	539, 1796, 1797	<b>v. Carter</b>	1367, 1693, 1712
<b>Edney v. Bryson</b>	1374	<b>v. Collier</b>	412, 696, 872, 1489, 1504, 1540, 1543
<b>Edrich's case</b>	930	<b>v. Davenport</b>	1204, 1205, 1206, 1373
<b>Edward's Appeal</b>	662	<b>v. Elliott</b>	1091, 1187, 1374, 1376
<b>Edwardes v. Jones</b>	1464	<b>v. Fisher</b>	658
<b>Edwards, In the Goods of</b>	98, 111	<b>v. Geise</b>	1777
<b>v. Astley</b>	111		
<b>v. Bates</b>	1935		
<b>v. Batley</b>	2012		
<b>v. Bethel</b>	1980		
<b>v. Bibb</b>	1112		
<b>v. Bucksdale</b>	1511		

Elliott v. Gurr	410	Emerson v. Cutler	665, 1224, 1232, 1461, 1463
v. Holwell	2050	v. Emerson	791, 793
v. Kemp	305, 634, 647, 648, 653, 915	v. Thompson	1803, 1894, 1947, 1951
v. Merriam	938	Emerton v. Emerton	572
v. Sparrell	1796, 1849	Emery v. Berry	257, 262, 265, 270
Elliott's Will	39, 40, 47	Emery v. England	1097
Ellis, Ex parte	236, 637	v. Hildreth	289, 549, 550, 551, 563, 590
In the Goods of	92	v. Neighbor	54
v. Bowen	1772	v. Wason	1194
v. Eden	1163, 1191, 1202	Emes v. Hancock	1254
v. Ellis	108	Emilies v. Weeks	487
v. Essex Merrimac Bridge	835, 1108, 1153, 1394	Emmons v. Cairns	1396
v. Griffith	902, 1898	Emory v. Thompson	981
v. Guavas	687	Emperor v. Rolfe	1248
v. Lewis	1446	Empson v. Sodon	711
v. McBride	237, 534	Emuss v. Smith	221, 1696
v. Merriam	1776	Enders v. Brune	1039
v. Page	1705	v. Enders	1168
v. Paige	1054, 1110	England, In re	1413
v. Selby	1076, 1077	v. Lord Tredegar	1344
v. Smith	77, 87, 90, 1088	Engler v. Twisden	1895
v. Walker	1160, 1161, 1168, 1322	Engles v. Bruington	352
Ellison, Ex parte	811	English, In the Goods of	106, 353
v. Airey	1090	v. Foote	728, 730
v. Elwin	856	v. Harvey	1844, 1845, 1851
v. Thomas	1097	v. McNair	232, 233, 450
Ellmaker's Estate	418, 425, 426, 463, 480, 499, 524	v. Ord	1068
Elme v. Da Costa	440, 441, 444	Ennis v. Pentz	1118
Elmendorf v. Lancing	236	v. Smith	371, 534, 1088, 1515, 1517, 1519
v. Lansing	2032	Eno v. Tatham	1702
Elmer v. Kechele	238, 449	Enobin v. Wylie	362, 366, 370, 431, 1088, 1457, 1515, 1517
Elmore v. Jacques	2059	Entwistle v. Davis	1062
Elms v. Elms	140	Entwistle v. Markland	1227, 1392
Elmsley v. Young	1120, 1121, 1124	Enys v. Donnithorne	1013
Elrod v. Alexander	791	Epes v. Dudley	881, 1872
Elsden v. Elsden	70, 171	Eppes v. Arthur	752
Elstobb v. Thoroughgood	488	Epps v. Dean	204
Elton v. Elton	1231	Erby v. Erby	993
v. Sheppard	1193	Ernest v. Eustace	442
Elwell, In the Goods of	297	Errat v. Barlow	1412
v. Quash	947, 1942	Errington v. Chapman	1412, 1431
Elwes, In re	1598	v. Evans	1310, 1315
v. Causton	1370	v. Werg	1542
v. Elwes	426, 462	Erskine's Trust, In re	1414
v. Maw	728, 729, 731, 733, 743, 744, 745, 746	Erving v. Peters	1953, 1974, 1987
Elwin v. Elwin	665, 1227, 1392	Erwin v. Hammer	117
Elwood v. Christy	303	Eslava v. Elliot	550
Elworthy v. Sandford	270, 271	Essex v. Atkins	61
Ely, Dean of, v. Edwards	2012	Essington v. Vashon	1197
v. Ely	1085, 1086	Este v. Este	58
Ely, Dean and Chapter of, v. Gayford	2017	Estob v. Thorowgood	1883
Ely v. Horine	650, 1865, 1965	Esty v. Clark	1118, 1221
Emanuel v. Constable	1053	Etcan v. Lancasterian	1458
v. Norcom	1863	Etches v. Etches	1211, 1219
Embrey v. Martin	1254	Etheridge v. Corprew	325
Embrin v. Mompesson	487	Eure v. Pittman	380
Embry v. Millar	364, 371	Eustis v. Parker	87
Emerson v. Amell	793	Euston, Earl of, v. Seymour	117
v. Boville	193, 197	Evans, In re	1623, 1629
v. Bowers	238, 449, 575	v. Angel	1153

Evans v. Brittain	1463	Exel v. Wallace	1240
v. Brown	1692	Eyerman v. Sheehan	346
v. Burrell	430	Eyre v. Eyre	193
v. Charles	1139, 1142, 1144, 1496	v. Golding	809, 1386, 1389, 1390, 1424
v. Chew	654	v. Higbee	1900
v. Crosbie	1079	v. Marsden	1086, 1217, 2041
v. Dallow	139	v. Monro	1018
v. Davies	1100, 1101	v. Lady Shaftsbury	66, 474
v. Davis	1088	Eyster v. Young	74
v. Evans	8, 185, 343, 1039, 1217, 1466, 1911	Eyster's Estate	470
v. Godbold	1079, 1080, 1109, 1110, 1124		
v. Gordon	878, 881, 1871	F.	
v. Harilee	1109	F. & M. Bank v. Leath	1947
v. Harris	1092	Fagan v. Jones	1161, 1178
v. Hudson	1084	Fahs v. Fahs	1275, 1276
v. Inglehart	710, 712, 1176, 1177, 1387, 1391, 1396, 1423, 1436	Fairbairn v. Fisher	2031
v. Jackson	940	Fairbanks v. Lamson	1072
v. Jones	1112, 1459, 1513	Fairbairn v. Fisher	237
v. Kimball	689	Fairchild v. Bascomb	346, 360
v. Kingsberry	658, 663	v. Crane	1106, 1112
v. Knight	22, 27, 339	Fairer v. Park	1171, 1299
v. Massey	1102, 1412	Fairfax v. Fairfax	529
v. Oakley	915	v. Hunter	12
v. Pierson	1975	Fairfax, Lord, v. Lord Derby	930
v. Rees	895	Fairfield v. Bushell	1112
v. Roberts	709, 711, 712	Fairly v. Kline	1256
v. Rosser	1276	Fairman's Appeal	969
v. Salt	1109	Fairweather, In the Goods of	447
v. Scott	1249, 1254	Fairish v. Dunbar	2033
v. Smith	11, 104	Falkner v. Butler	1104
v. Tatem	265, 362	v. Grace	1712
v. Tripp	1159	Fall v. Simmons	1851
v. Tweedy	2028	Fambro v. Gautt	932
v. Tyler	238, 517	Fane, Ex parte	34
v. Walker	1195	v. Bence	1540
v. Webb	1445	Fannel v. Fen	912
v. Williams	1003	Farraday, In the Goods of	60, 441
v. Wyatt	1704	Farie's Appeal	749, 1413
Evans, Mary, Estate of	1822, 1877	Farihault v. Taylor	1094
Evarts v. Nason	1861	Farish v. Wilson	1933
Eveleth v. Eveleth	343, 346	Farlar v. Farlar	339
Evelyn, Ex parte	517	Farley v. Bryant	1688, 1895
v. Evelyn	424, 1509, 1698, 1699, 1700	v. Farley	1896
Everall v. Brown	1185	v. McConnel	401, 452, 532, 550
Everett v. Carr	221, 1069, 1070, 1076, 1080, 1369	Farmer v. Brock	343
v. Cooke	1088	v. Francis	1226, 1247
v. Mount	1231	v. Kimball	1513
Everitt v. Everitt	380, 1084, 1217	v. Mills	1360, 1362
v. Lawe	1158	Farncombe v. Kent	1993
Everts v. Everts	1310	Farnham v. Phillips	1334
Evertson v. Tappan	938, 1843, 1861	Farnum v. Boutelle	631
Ewen v. Franklin	97	Farquhar, In the Goods of	118
Ewer v. Corbet	933	Farquharson v. Cave	775, 1623
v. Moyle	818	v. Floyer	1717
Ewin, In re	616, 619, 1516, 1637, 1641, 1642, 1661	Farr v. Newman	637, 639, 643, 933, 937
Ewing, In the Goods of,	482, 483	v. Pearce	1658
v. Handley	1098	v. Thompson	47
v. Standerfer	1106	Farrant v. Nichols	1112
		Farrar v. Ayers	1088, 1199
		v. Barker	1248
		v. Barraclough	1808
		v. Stackpole	730

Farrar v. Winterton	1330	Fenwick v. Sears	361
Farrell's Estate	269	v. Thornton	1894
Farrer v. Barker	1249, 1250, 1263	Fereyes v. Robertson	1705
v. Winterton	660	Ferguson v. Clifford	371, 1088
Farrier v. Cairns	1897	v. Collins	424
Farrington v. Knightly	226, 464, 1479	v. Hedges	1459
Farrow v. Wilson	789	v. Mahon	998
Farwell v. Jacobs	254, 461, 1051, 1931	v. Mason	1099, 1101
v. Seale	1646	v. Miller	705
Farys v. Farys	1310	v. Scott	1803
Fathersee v. Lawrence	93	v. Stewart	661, 1108, 1109
Faulding's Trust, In re	1211	Fergusson v. Pyffe	1880
Faulds v. Jackson	88, 90	v. Mitchell	1872
Faulkner v. Hollingsworth	1392	Fernandes' Executor's case	289, 617
Faulkner v. Daniel	524, 689	Fernie, In the Goods of	229
Faunce v. Gray	1894	Ferrand v. Howard	1490
Fauquier v. Tynte	390	v. Walker	1946
Faust v. Birner	1458	Ferrers v. Ferrers	1427
Faversham, Mayor of, v. Ryder	1069, 1071	Ferrier, In the Goods of	527, 579
Fawcett v. Carter	1722	Ferrill v. Talbot	1106, 1112
v. Jones	213, 350, 354, 1153	Ferrin v. Myrick	785, 969, 1787, 1790
Fawkes v. Gray	1389	Ferris v. Gibson	1250
Fawkner v. Jordan	242, 464, 481	Ferry v. Edminster	204
v. Watts	1540, 1541	Ferson v. Dodge	1224, 1225
Fawtry v. Fawtry	417	Feamire v. Brock	1870
Faxon v. Dyson	1776, 1782	Festing v. Allen	1238, 1243, 1246, 1248, 1249
Fay v. Cheney	687	Fetherly v. Waggoner	346, 352, 380
v. Haven	362, 430, 431, 433, 1515, 1664, 1929	Fetherstone v. Fetherstone	1081
v. Holloran	820	Fetrow v. Fetrow	709
v. Howe	1844	Fetrow's Estate	1080
v. Muzzey	731, 915	Fettyplace v. Gorges	61
v. Rogers	534	Fewins v. Lethbridge	892
v. Sylvester	1239, 1241	Field, In re	75
v. Taylor	534	v. Allen	1876
Fazakerley v. Gillibrand	1300	v. Eaton	1463
Fearns v. Young	1389, 1392, 1393	v. Hitchcock	2060
Fearon, Ex parte	557	v. Moore	1697
Fears v. Brooks	750, 751	v. Peckett	1185, 1202, 1852
Featherstonhaugh v. Fenwick	1658	v. Schieffelin	932, 936, 937
Feely v. Reed	1870	Field's Appeal	346, 347
Feit v. Vanatta	1098, 1097	Fielden v. Ashworth	1139
Felch v. Taylor	1931	v. Fielden	1920, 1922
Fell, In the Goods of,	438	Fielder v. Hanger	412, 475
v. Lutridge	2035	Fielding v. Preston	1158, 1176, 1368, 1371
v. Lutwidge	405	Fields v. Wheatley	991
Fellows v. Little	1498, 1502	Fifield v. Maine Central Railroad	727
v. Mitchell	1833	Fillyan v. Lavery	1742
v. Tann	751	Filson v. Filson	345
Feltham v. Feltham	1397	Finch v. Bodyll	699
Feltham's Trust	1151, 1153	v. Finch	157, 1300
Feltman v. Butts	1080	v. Hollingworth	1118
Felton v. Sawyer	1224, 1235	v. Lane	1241, 1246
Feltz v. Clark	533	v. Ragland	958, 981, 1034, 1966
Fendall v. May	906	v. Rogers	1372, 1374, 1376, 1377
v. Nash	1412	v. Squire	1061
Fenn v. Death	1098	Finch's, Sir Moyle, case	496
Fenner v. Dives	964	Fincham v. Edwards	19, 351
v. Taylor	1417, 1418	Finche's case	489
Fennimore v. Fennimore	1820	Findlay, In the Goods of	447
Fenny v. Ewestace	1083, 1088	v. Riddle	1080
Fenton, In the Goods of	282, 521, 525	Findley v. Smith	1844
v. Clegg	304, 1380, 1381, 1385	Findon v. Findon	1087
Fenwick, In the Goods of	56, 178, 202	Finlason v. Tatlock	1108, 1109
v. Clarke	1452, 1818		

Finlay v. King	1081, 1084, 1085, 1258	Flemming v. Chunn	820
Finn v. Chase	280, 1943	Fletcher v. Ashburner	658
v. Hempstead	471	v. Fletcher	107, 574, 588
Finner v. Longland	1537	v. Le Breton	585
Finnane v. Gayfere	335	v. Lechmere	1870
Flott v. Commonwealth	12	v. Stevenson	1344, 1347
First's Appeal	513	v. Walker	1819
First Nat. Bank v. Balcom	771, 1520	v. Weir	237, 534, 900
Fish's Estate	1427	Flinn v. Chase	550, 576
Fish v. Richardson	1774	v. Davis	1106
Fisher, In re	160, 162, 470, 471, 524	v. Jenkins	1513
v. Bassett	588	v. Owen	90
v. Beal	786	Flint v. Pattee	779
v. Brierly	1058, 1295, 1426, 1651	v. Warren	658, 662
v. Dixon	733, 743	Flintham v. Bradford	148, 179
v. Hubbell	2020	v. Holder	1514
v. Fisher	835, 1676, 1705, 1799	Flintham's Appeal	970, 971, 1844
v. Forbes	711, 719	Flood v. Howser	160
v. Hepburn	1185	v. Patterson	1929, 2018, 2023
v. Hill	1221	Flora v. Mennice	445, 576
v. Kimball	54	Florance v. Florance	52
v. Lane	2000	Florey v. Florey	45, 48, 346
v. Metcalf	1946	Florida, Territory of, v. Redding	534
v. Saffer	728	Flower v. Garr	1871
v. Skillman	1513, 1820	Floyd v. Barker	1216, 1458, 1460, 2038
v. Taylor	1266	v. Floyd	47, 51, 204
v. Webster	1106	v. Herring	594
Fishwick v. Sewall	1880, 1893	v. Johnson	944, 951
Fisk v. Atty. Gen.	1070, 1073, 1076	v. Thompson	1106
v. Cobb	1267, 1389, 1396	v. Wallace	1894
v. Cushman	763, 1158	Flud v. Rumcey	1315
Fitch v. Peckham	1296	Fluke v. Fluke	658
v. Weber	662, 663, 1088	Flynn v. Coffee	318
Fittock, In the Goods of	430	Foden v. Finney	1413
Fitzgerald v. Boehm	913, 1870	v. Howlett	1545
v. Field	1187, 1249, 1530, 1708	Fogg v. Perkins	534
Fitzherbert v. Shaw	734, 745	Foley v. Burnell	725, 1396
Fitzhugh v. Dennington	17	v. Hill	2023
v. Fitzhugh	1771, 1788	v. Percival	660
Fitzroy, In the Goods of	202	v. Vernon	107
v. Howard	1656, 1672, 1674	Folignos' Mortgage, Re	1901
v. Richmond	1216	Folks v. Docminique	543
Fitzsimons v. Fitzsimons	1442	v. Western	1540
Fitzwilliam v. Kelly	1173, 1764	Folsom v. Blaisdell	1895, 1897
Flagg v. Winans	1974	v. Marsh	1900
Flamank, Ex parte	668	Foltz v. Prouse	575, 648, 817, 820
Flanders v. Abbott	352	Fonereau v. Fonereau	1233
v. Clarke	951	Fonnereau v. Poyntz	1088, 1153, 1199,
v. Davis	20		1359, 1362
v. Flanders	938	Fontaine v. Tyler	1158, 1166
Flannery's Will	75	Fonte v. Horton	1820
Flay v. Flay	1181	Food v. Pomroy	855
Fleeger v. Poole	293	Foot, Appellant	836, 839, 1438
Fleet v. Hegeman	705	Foot v. Stanton	39, 103
v. Holmes	977	Foot's case	1391
v. Perrins	852	Forbes v. Ball	1117
Fleetwood v. Fleetwood	1091	v. Forbes	960, 1518, 1519, 1521,
Fleier v. Southcot	258		1522, 1524
Fleming v. Brook	1179, 1180	v. Gordon	69, 74, 189
v. Buchanan	1686, 1691, 1693	v. Lawrence	1290
v. Burrows	1183, 1454	v. Moffat	689
v. Fleming	163, 1154	v. Peacock	655, 954
v. McKesson	2006	v. Perrie	1771
v. Pelham	417	v. Phipps	875
Flemings v. Jarrat	263	v. Ross	1809, 1844, 1846, 1847



Forbes v. Smith	1886	Foster v. Crenshaw	1633
v. Steven	623	v. Evans	1301
Ford v. —	390	v. Fifield	1483, 1490, 1656
v. Batley	1196	v. Fitfield	691
v. Cobb	730	v. Foster	158, 311, 380, 763, 2049
v. De Pontes	185, 204, 1331	v. Handley	1682
v. Fleming	1168, 1322	v. Hooper	1740
v. Ford	94, 147, 1084, 1088, 1162, 1321, 1323, 1325, 1326, 1335	v. Huntington	650
v. Gaithur	1712	v. Jackson	1942
v. Glanville	490, 492	v. Ley	1572, 1633, 1649
v. Philpot	1682	v. Nowlin	261, 263, 265
v. Rawlins	1232, 1237, 1242	v. Starkey	1803
v. Russell	934	v. Wallace	261
v. Ruxton	287, 1649	v. Wick	1259
v. Tynte	704	v. Wilbur	959
Forder v. Wade	390	Foteaux v. Lepage	820
Foreman v. Foreman	668	Fotherby v. Pate	493
Forest, In the Goods of	377	Fotherby's case	577
Forest v. Ireland	1088	Fothergill v. Kendrick	1006
Forfar v. Heastie	350	v. Walton	901
Foreign Missions, Commis. of Appeal	472	Foubert v. Cresseron	110
Forman's Will	20, 107, 147	Fouke v. Kemp	1103, 1153
Forman, Matter of	347	v. Lewin	1543, 1546
Forman v. Smith	39, 40, 45, 48, 50, 51	Foulks v. Rhea	318
Forniquet v. Forstall	917	Fountain v. Ravenal	1076
Forrest v. Prescott	1710	Fourdrin v. Gowdey	12, 1712
v. Marrington	856	Fourth Ecclesiastical Society v. Mather	846, 849, 871
Forrester v. Forrester	416	Fowler v. Forrester	1310
v. Leigh	1169, 1718	Fowke v. Hunt	1537
Forsbrook v. Forsbrook	1080	Fowler v. Bailey	666
Forse & Hembling's case	55, 61, 124, 191, 192	v. Bayldon	2017
Forsight v. Grant	1297	v. Cohn	1109
Forster v. Forster	347	v. Davies	1928
v. Ridley	1853	v. Fowler	1296, 1300, 1302
Forsyth v. Burr	976	v. Garlike	1077
v. Ganson	949, 1894, 1947	v. Kell	413
Forsythe v. Rathbone	662	v. Lewis	360
Fort v. Gooding	1297	v. Rice	759
v. Goody	1979	v. Richards	527
v. Oliver	1995	v. Roberts	1915
Fortescue v. Abbott	1260	v. Roundtree	1498
v. Hennah	1534	v. Willoughby	1160, 1170
Forth v. Chapman	1082, 1088, 1107	Fowler's Trusts, In re	1442
v. Stanton	1776, 1781	Fowls v. Davidson	22, 33, 383
Fortre v. Fortre	410	Fox, Will of, In the Matter	656, 657, 1052
Fortson v. Caldwell	1974	v. Fisher	637
Fortune v. Buck	87, 293, 549	v. Fox	1498
Forward v. Forward	1805, 1845, 1860, 1861	v. Garrett	1047
Fosbrooke v. Bagny	1656, 1843	v. Marston	194, 196
Fosdick v. Fosdick	1091, 1250	v. Phelps	1258
Foss v. Crisp	12	v. Southack	12
Foster, In the Goods of	246	v. Swann	940
v. Banbury	1053	v. Van Norman	257
v. Bates	631	v. Waters	1894
v. Blagden	1720	v. Wilcocks	1844
v. Blakelock	1969	Foxley's case	903
v. Brown	539, 588	Foxwist v. Tremain	231, 479
v. Claggett	907	v. Tremaine	879, 1873, 1938
v. Commonwealth	452	Foxwith v. Tremaine	240
v. Conger	749	Foy, In the Goods of	1524
v. Cook	1269, 1718	v. Foy	1063, 1064, 1070, 1720
v. Craige	6, 221	v. Morehead	2003
		Fozard, In the Goods of	531

France v. Aubrey	289	Freetown v. Taunton	1523
France's Estate	763, 969, 1079, 1084, 1088, 1788, 1790	Freke v. Thomas	485
Frances v. Ley	723	Fremoult v. Dedire	1017
Frances', Alice, case	252	French v. Caddell	1088
Francis v. Brooking	1414	v. Davis	1656, 1946
v. Clemow	1717	v. French	345, 562, 1094
v. Grover	111, 2031	v. Hatch	1396
v. Northcote	540	v. Merrill	877, 881, 1872
v. Ocean Ins. Co.	371	v. Raymond	771, 774
v. Welch	265	v. Windsor	534, 540
Franco v. Alvarenza	975	Frenche's case	153
Frank's Appeal	752	Frere v. Peacocke	20, 34
Franklin v. Armfield	1069, 1070, 1072	Frerebee v. Doxey	1310
v. Bank of England	86, 812, 813	Frescobaldi v. Kinaston	904
v. Frith	1810, 1844	Fretwell v. Stacy	1366
v. Low	1728	Frevin v. Payntor	1872
v. Osgood	655	Frewen v. Ralfe	167, 913, 1472
v. South Eastern Railway Co.	797	Frey v. Frey	1849, 1853
v. Trout	1079	Fridge v. Buhler	1800
Franklin County v. M'Ilvain	539	Friedlander v. The London Assur- ance Company	347
Franklin's Charity, In re	1634, 1635	Frierson v. Beale	74, 122
Franks v. Cooper	1045	Frink v. Luyton	1895, 1896, 1975
Fransen's Will	192, 225	v. Pond	87
Fraser, In the Goods of	127, 239, 447	v. Taylor	1872
v. Bing	1291	Friswell v. Moore	70, 240, 545
v. Boone	1084, 1088	Frith, In the Goods of	94
v. Fulcher	409	Fritz v. Thomas	1803
v. Palmer	1854	Frogg v. Long	1895
v. Pigott	1100	Frogley v. Phillips	1104
v. Swansea Canal Co.	877	Froneberger v. Lewis	650
v. Thompson	752	Froust v. Burton	1734
Frazer v. Alexander	1187	Frouty v. Frouty	1378
v. Bevill	1374, 1376, 1377	Frowd v. Baker	501
v. Lee	650	Fruen v. Porter	1743, 1937
v. Tunis	991	Fruer v. Bouquet	1479
Frazier v. Frazier	533, 1216, 1458, 1459	Fry, In the Goods of v. Evans	239 881, 1873, 1874, 1876, 1938
Freaker v. Craneheldt	1951, 2024, 2028	v. Fry	185, 1804, 1819, 1820
Freakley v. Fox	1312, 1314	v. Richardson	1912
Fream v. Dowling	1711	v. Sherbourne, Lord	1263
Freckelton, In the Goods of	297	Fry's Will	93
Frederick v. Aynscombe	390	Fryer, In re	1834
v. Frederick	1531	v. Buttar	1163, 1402
v. Hall	107	v. Gildridge	1047, 1310, 1314, 1317
v. Hook	495	v. Morris	1168, 1322, 1323
Free v. White	1869	v. Rankin	1188
Freeland v. Burt	1153	Fudge v. Durn	1808
v. Dazey	2006	Fugate v. Bronaugh	1875
v. Freeland	650	Fulcher v. Howell	654
Freeman v. Burnham	754	Fulham v. Wickett	1088
v. Fairlie	1281, 1859, 2045, 2047, 2048	Fulkerton v. Chitty	1190
v. Freeman	121, 163, 166	Full v. Hutchins	343
v. Gainsford	1062	Fullam v. Stearns	730
v. Knight	1108, 1513	Fulleck v. Allinson	30, 43, 69, 74
v. Lomas	1307	Fuller, Ex parte	293, 549
v. Parsley	1112	In re	1935
v. Pope	753, 754	v. Fuller	1204, 1243
v. Simpson	1425	v. Green	2042
v. Tranah	894, 895	v. Hooper	8
v. Worrill	442	v. Redman	1803, 1804
Freemantle v. Banks	1334	v. Taylor	728
v. Taylor	1089		

Fuller v. Winthrop	1224, 1225, 1226, 1235, 1243, 1244, 1248, 1254, 1256
v. Yates	1445, 1447
Fulton v. Andrew	115
v. Davidson	1854, 1861
v. Fulton	1261, 1445
v. Moore	1441
Fulwood's case	675, 842
Furrow v. Merrill	1094
Furman v. Coe	1808
Furness v. Fox	1224, 1225
Further v. Further	1958
Futter v. Jackson	2046
Fyson v. Chambers	270, 634, 653
v. Westrope	341
Fytche v. Fytche	1449

## G.

Gabb v. Prendergast	1101
Gable v. Daub	67, 206, 221, 375
Gabril v. Barr	107
Gadberry v. Sheppard	1266
Gadsden v. Lord	1039
Gaffe, In re	751
Gaffield v. Hapgood	739
Gage v. Acton	641, 1011
v. Gage	104, 106, 154, 203
v. Johnson	872, 946
Gaines v. Alexander	1894
v. Chew	45, 2006
v. Gaines	127, 137, 183
Galbraith v. Winter	1168
Gale v. Bennett	1098
v. Drake	778, 1081, 1088, 1178, 1182, 1189
v. Gale	1330
v. Luttrell	976, 980, 1952, 2032
v. Ward	728, 730, 740
Gallagher's Appeal	1712, 1717
Gallaher v. Gallaher	1168
Galland v. Leonard	1261, 1263
Gallant v. Bouteflower	879, 1870, 1873, 1879
Gallego v. Att. Gen.	883, 1070, 1076, 1359, 1450, 1451, 1452
Galley v. Prather	654
Galliers v. Moss	1193
Gallini v. Gallini	1088
v. Noble	1153, 1189, 1200
Gallivan v. Evans	498, 499, 1845
Galluchat, Ex parte	2033
Galsworthy v. Durrant	996
Galton v. Hancock	1020, 1693, 1694, 1714
Gambault v. Public Administrator	360
Gambier v. Gambier	1515
Gamble v. Gamble	643
v. Hamilton	915
Gambos's Trusts, In re	1108
Gammon v. Stone	1014
Gangwere's Estate	22
Gann v. Gregory	130, 131, 331, 332, 568

Garber v. Commonwealth	534
Gardener v. Fenner	1779
Gardenshire v. Hinds	1119
Gardiner v. Fell	1443, 1662
v. Gardiner	47, 49, 346
v. Guild	1095, 1225, 1232
v. Parker	772, 776
v. Slater	1232, 1243
Gardner, In the Goods of	379, 380
v. Baillie	1786
v. Baker	753
v. Gantt	302, 1933
v. Gardner	41, 47, 749, 778, 781, 935, 2039
v. Garrett	1358
v. Garrett	1917
v. Harden	1396
v. Hatton	1168, 1322
v. Hoyer	1099, 1101, 1153
v. Hooper	889, 1225
v. James	1090
v. Lamback	30
v. Lewis	371
v. London, Chatham & Do-	
ver Co.	1061
v. Parker	771
v. Printup	1164, 1168, 1215, 1325
Garey v. Whittingham	1263
Garforth v. Bradley	864, 869
Garland, Ex parte	637, 1791, 1792, 1793
v. Harrison	1513
v. Littlewood	1863
v. Rowan	1515
Garlick v. Patterson	689
Garryn v. Arstete	16
Garner v. Garner	1152, 1153
v. Holmes	1333
v. Lansford	121
v. Lyles	261
v. Moore	1820
Garnet v. Acton	204
v. Macon	1693
v. Sellars	43
Garnett v. Carr	1844
v. Macon	933, 936
Garniss v. Gardiner	1844, 1847, 1851
Garon v. Trippet	1540
Garratt v. Niblock	1103
v. Weeks	1091
Garratt's Appeal	1332
Garrett v. Cockerell	1106
v. Garrett	220, 1088, 1860
v. Lister	1381, 1893
v. Noble	1195
v. Rex	1193
Garrick v. Lord Camden	1120
Garrison v. Garrison	221, 1438
Garro v. Thompson	1682
Garter v. Dee	258, 594, 1945
Garth v. Baldwyn	677, 1108
v. Meyrick	1153, 1289
v. Taylor	258
Gartshore v. Charlie	1223, 1387, 1491, 1492

Garvey v. Hibbert	1156	George v. Vanhorn	793
Garworth v. Bradley	847	v. Watson	291
Gary v. James		George's Appeal	938
Gascoyne v. Chandler	288, 336, 337, 558	Georges v. Georges	313
Gaskell v. Gaskell	1620	Georgetown College v. Brown	228, 417
v. Harman	1227	Gere v. Clarke	1740
v. Holmes	1211, 1219, 1220, 1465	German v. German	1396
Gaskill v. Gaskill	302	Gerrard v. R. R. Co.	936
v. Hough	1710	Gerrish v. Nason	21, 86, 111, 115, 346, 351
Gaskins v. Gaskins	69, 74, 1427	Gerry v. Post	318
v. Rogers	1160, 1196	Gervis v. Gervis	1693, 1694, 1718
Gasque v. Moody	387, 575, 576	v. Hallowell	573
Gass v. Gass	97	Gest v. Flock	658
v. Ross	1154	Gewen v. Roll	1954, 1982
v. Simpson	771	Geyer v. Wentzell	1087
v. Wilhite	1055, 1070, 1076	Gheer v. Osborn	835, 839
Gaters v. Madeley	849, 851, 852	Ghost v. Waller	1817
Gates v. Jones	1056, 1058	Gibbons v. Curtis	1705
Gaultney v. Nolan	1820, 1821	v. Peeler	1679
Gaunt v. Taylor	989, 1000, 1002, 1918, 2034	Gibbins v. Taylor	1820
Gauntlett v. Carter	569	Gibbett v. Read	1658
Gausden, In the Goods of	78	Gibbon v. Gibbon	1197
Gauze v. Wiley	1931	Gibbons v. Caunt	193, 198
Gaw v. Huffman	1433	v. Cross	196
Gawler v. Cadby	1263	v. Dawley	2006
v. Standerwick	558, 559, 1253, 1397, 1399	v. Hills	1161
Gay v. Lemle	278, 989	v. Johnson	1895
v. Minot	292, 293, 302, 537	v. Langdon	1217, 1263
Gayle v. Blackburn	362, 364	v. Riley	293, 461
v. Ennis	1871	Gibbs, In the Goods of	329
Gayner, In the Goods of	367	v. Belcher	800
Gaynor, In the Goods of	472	v. Caboon	1887
v. Wood	1296	v. Estey	728
Gayre v. Gayre	1172	v. Rumsey	1075
Gaze v. Gaze	83, 88	v. Tate	1111, 1115, 1465
Geale, In the Goods of	17	Giblett v. Hobson	1064
Geary v. Beaumont	2053	Gibson, In re	221, 1472
Geaves v. Prince	162, 163	v. Bailey	687
Gedde's Appeal	1860	v. Bott	1163, 1389, 1390, 1392, 1393, 1424
Gedge v. Trail	2021	v. Cooke	665
Gee v. Gee	715	v. Crehore	689
v. The Mayor of Manchester	1261, 1263	v. Farley	650, 817, 820
v. Young	716	v. Fisher	1513
Gehrke v. State	346	v. Gibson	41, 117, 120, 122, 346, 360, 1082, 1446
Geiger v. Brown	1880	v. Hale	1115, 1460
General v. Bouwens	364	v. Land	1080, 1376
Genet v. Tallmadge	1405	v. Lane	325, 334
Gent, In the Goods of	531	v. Lord Montford	212
v. Harris	1414	v. McCall	2052, 1070
Gentry, In the Goods of	184, 213	v. McCormick	1693, 1700, 1718
v. Jones	257, 1396	v. Scudmore	666
v. McReynolds	757	v. Seagrim	1713
George 3, In the Goods of	14, 15	Gibson's Trust	1216, 1218
George v. Baker	687, 946	Giddings v. Crosby	763
v. Bussing	54, 1441	v. Giddings	1656
v. Cutting	749, 846	v. Seward	1159, 1168, 1321
v. George	45, 65, 325, 377, 1153, 1263, 1264, 1265	Gieson v. Howard	1104
v. Goldsby	836, 1374, 1376, 1377	Gifford v. Choate	1267
v. Green	6	v. Dyer	172, 358, 359
v. Millbanke	754, 1686	v. Manley	1018
v. Spencer	758	v. Thorn	1233, 1235
		Gilbert v. Bennett	1126
		v. Boorman	1091

Gilbert v. Chapin	108, 1126	Gittins v. Steele	1081, 1452, 1710, 1711
v. Gilbert	47	Givens v. Higgins	257, 259
v. Hales	1038	Gladding v. Yapp	1478, 1481
v. Knox	89, 96	Gladdon v. Stoneman	236
v. Lewis	750	Gladston v. Tempest	105, 163, 167
v. Platt	1882	v. Whitney	650
v. Richards	1216	Glaholm v. Rowntree	1660
v. Wetherell	1504	Glaister v. Hewer	759
Gilbertson v. Gilbertson	1710	Glancy v. Glancy	77
Gilbreath v. Winter	1321	Glanville v. Glanville	1431
Gilby v. Burley	1394	Glanville v. Glanville	1157
Gilchrist v. Cannon	1664	Glasgow College v. Att. Gen.	1057
v. Rea	654	Glasgow v. Sands	872
Giles v. Churchill	272, 273, 630	Glass v. Greathouse	650
v. Dyson	1802, 1860, 1966, 1972	v. Oxenham	2014
v. Franks	1230	Glasscock v. Smithers	204
v. Giles	137, 139, 1155, 1211, 1219	Glassell v. Wilson	361
v. Pratt	1978	Gleadow v. Atkin	957, 1810
v. Warren	141	Gleason v. Fayerweather	1266, 1267
Gilham v. Mustin	104	Gleaton v. Lewis	261
Gilkey v. Hamilton	631, 1894	Glen v. Fisher	1414, 1424, 1426, 1441, 1705, 1708, 1931
Gill, In the Goods of	97, 412, 417, 462, 463, 476	v. Webster	2061
Estate of	1300, 1332	Glendening v. Glendening	1456
v. Att. Gen.	1822	Glengall, Lord, v. Barnard	1302, 1392
v. Barrett	1123	Glenn v. Conner	534
v. Shelley	1099, 1101	v. Glenn	763, 1040, 1810
Gill's Appeal	1425	v. Smith	267, 269, 270, 361
Will	87	Glidden v. Bennett	730
Gillespie v. Alexander	1291, 1356, 1357, 1358, 1451, 1452	Gloucester, Corp. of, v. Osborn	108
v. Foy	1510	v. Wood	108
Gillett v. Gane	1152	Glover, In the Goods of	77
v. Hutchinsonson	1873	v. Archer	822
v. Mason	705	v. Glover	1519, 1806
Gilliam v. Spence	1679	v. Halley	1752, 1853
Gilliat v. Gilliat	393, 1191	v. Hartcup	1299, 1301
Gillies v. Longlands	658	v. Hayden	50, 1153
v. Smithers	1959, 1972	v. Kendal	878
Gilliland v. Bredin	254	Glubb v. Att. Gen.	1063
Gillis v. Weller	117	Glyn v. Glyn	1263
Gillman v. Hamilton	1070	Glynn v. Oglander	104, 107
v. Mustin	10	v. Thorpe	1006
Gillow v. Bourne	70, 171	Goate v. Fryer	1035, 1036, 1917
Gilman v. Daunt	1091	Goble v. Grant	22, 26, 38, 360
v. Gilman	361, 366, 1088, 1515, 1517, 1218, 1519, 1798, 1844	Goblet v. Beechey	1155
v. Hamilton	1076	Godard v. Wagner	1158, 1171, 1172
v. Healey	946	Godbold v. Roberts	1872, 1938
Gilmer v. Gilmer	1158, 1159, 1162, 1165	Goddard v. Bolster	894
Gilmore v. Hubbard	1801	v. Chase	739
v. Severn	1090	v. Cressonier	429
Gilpin v. Hollingsworth	1463	v. Goddard	417
v. Lady Southampton	1916	v. Ingram	1948
v. Williams	1088, 1093	v. Johnson	1225
Gimblett v. Purton	1091	v. Norton	336
Ginder v. Farnum	67, 77, 83	v. Wagner	1458
Gingell v. Horne	45, 555	Godden v. Crowhurst	1052, 1266
Girand v. Hanbury	1478	Godding v. Porter	1801
Girard v. Philadelphia	6, 204, 221	Godfrey, In the Goods of	443
Girdlestone v. Creed	1263	v. Davis	1091, 1101
v. Doe	1085	v. Hughes	1276
Girling v. Lee	1684	Godrich v. Jones	497, 498
Gittings v. M'Dermott	1083, 1086, 1108, 1209, 1219	Godsden v. Dotterill	1648
		Godson v. Freeman	1895
		v. Good	1740
		Godwin v. Knight	537, 538

Godwin v. Munday	1254	Goose v. Brown	350
Goepp's Appeal	1020	Gorbell v. Davison	1124
Goff v. Kiltz	705	Gordan v. Duff	1162
Goffe v. Haywood	1376	Gordon v. Adolphus	1276
Going v. Emery	656, 1070, 1072	v. Barkelow	1499, 1502
Gold v. Jordan	1089	v. Bowden	1402, 1811
v. Judson	221, 222, 1088	v. Calvert	1724
Gold's case	985	v. Clarke	362
Goldicutt v. Townshend	752	v. Frederick, Justices of 534,	1979
Goldie v. Greaves	1112	v. Goodwin	1867
v. Murray	377	v. Gordon	1102
Golding v. Golding	105	v. Hoffman	1290
v. Vaughan	843, 1865	v. Hope	1112
Goldney v. Crabb	1112	v. Reay	98, 212
Goldsborough, In the Goods of	439, 547	v. State	534
v. Martin	1112, 1265	v. Trail	1861
Goldsmid v. Goldsmid	1280, 1491	v. West	1842, 1863
Goldsmith v. Sidnor	1021, 1024	v. Whieldon	1094
Goldsworthy v. Crosley	56, 57, 391	Gore v. Brazier	651, 1693
v. Southcott	898, 998, 1996	v. Gibson	41
Goldwyn & Aspenwall v. Coppell	169	v. Knight	62, 757
Gombault v. The Public Administrator	22	v. Stevens	1204, 1458
Gompertz v. Gompertz	1087, 1288	Goree v. Waltham	759
Gooch v. Gooch	1090, 1091, 1185	Gorham v. Canton	1519
Goodacre v. Smith	350	v. Springfield	1519
Goodall v. McLean	1219	Goring v. Goring	1780, 1799
v. Marshall	362, 364, 432, 1515, 1517, 1664, 1929	Gorton v. Dyson	1933, 1935, 2004
v. Tucker	1929	v. Gregory	1974
Goodall's case	885	Gosden v. Dotterill	1189
Goodchild v. Fenton	1844	Gosling v. Gosling	1399
Goodell v. Pike	15	v. Carter	655
Goodenough, In the Goods of	213	v. Townshend	1261, 1263
v. Tremamondo	1163, 1177	Goss v. Eberhart	1094
Goodkin v. Murphy	1462	v. Lord Nugent	1153
Goodfellow v. Burchett	1806	v. Tracy	45
v. Goodfellow	221, 1446	Gouge v. Hayward	1376
Goodhue v. Clark	1153, 1909	Gough v. Bult	1288, 2031
Goodlad v. Burnett	221, 222, 1162, 1200, 1488	v. Davies	1421
Goodman v. Edwards	1079	v. Findon	105, 1623
v. Goodman	71, 1217	v. Howard	1376
v. Walker	1871	Goulbourn v. Brooks	1254
Goodrich v. Goodrich	759	Gould v. Fleetwood	1853
v. Jones	730, 731	v. Gapper	343
v. Pendleton	1895	v. Hayes	1853, 1933, 2006
Goodright v. Barron	1083	v. Kemp	1472
v. Dunham	1082, 1088	v. Mansfield	11, 124
v. Glazier	149, 178, 180	v. Mather	951, 953
v. Harwood	165	v. Safford	117, 122
Goodtitle v. Braham	349	v. Winthrop	1694
v. Meredith	212	Goulder v. Camm	750
v. Otway	204	Gourley v. Campbell	658
v. Southerner	1153	v. Linsinbigler	777
Goodwin, Ex parte	844	v. Thompson	1088
v. Barret	362	Gout v. Zimmerman	1522
v. Chaffee	1931	Gouthwaite's case	1748
v. Finlayson	1217	Govanne v. Govanne	463
v. Jones	362, 432, 1929	Gove v. Gawen	102
v. Lee	1694	Gover v. Davis	1183
v. Milton	1657	v. Owings	749
v. Moore	856	Governesses' Society v. Rusbridger	1401
v. Ramsden	1529, 1538	Governor, The, v. Evans	1943
Goodyear, In the Goods of	1183	v. Williams	237, 1656
Goodyear v. Watson	991, 1014	Governor &c. v. Chouteau	532
		Gower v. Gower	1184
		v. Grosvenor	725

Gower v. Moor	1153, 1199	Graves v. Page	263, 265
Grabill v. Barr	21	v. Sheldon	127, 187, 204
Grabowski's Settlement	1895	v. Weld	712
Grace v. Hannah	432	Graves's Appeal	1844
Gradell v. Tyson	1891	Gravillon v. Richards	362, 1664
Graeme v. Harris	361	Gray v. Armistead	932, 937, 943
Graff v. Castleman	936, 937	v. Barton	778
v. Smith	650, 1983	v. Blanchard	1266
Graffey v. Humpage	1130, 1135	v. Garman	1211, 1219, 1259, 1273
Graham, In the Goods of	162, 163	v. Harris	539
v. Adams	409	v. Henderson	655
v. Davidson	981, 1187, 1188, 1867	v. Holdship	739
v. Graham	77, 91, 92, 1821, 1796	v. Leach	954
v. Keble	1832	v. Lynch	1806
v. Londonderry	758, 763, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 1095	v. Minnethorpe	1084, 1708
v. Maclean	440	v. Pearson	1153
v. Maxwell	1914, 1917	v. Patton	361
v. O'Fallon	380	v. Swain	1656
v. Paternoster	1068	v. Thompson	1845
v. State	539	Graybill v. Barr	75
v. Wickham	1018, 2035	v. Warren	1424
Grahame v. Harris	881, 1872	Graydon v. Graydon	1275
Grainger v. Slingsby	1191	v. Hicks	1278, 1478
Granard v. Dunkin	1900	Graysbrook v. Fox	250, 270, 272, 276, 277, 293, 302, 305, 402, 461, 561
Grand v. Reeve	217	Grayson v. Atkinson	77
Grande v. Chaves	574	v. Deakin	1447
Grandison v. Dover	489, 577	Greated v. Greated	1085, 1702
Grandom's Estate	1070	Greatly v. Noble	61
Grandy v. Sawyer	1079, 1082	Greatorix v. Cary	1088
Grane's Appeal	1851	Greaves v. Powell	1684
Grange v. Twing	53	Greeley, Matter of	311
Granger v. Bassett	836, 839, 1389, 2060, 2062	Green, In re	1345
v. Granger	1876	Ex parte	1412
Grant v. Bridger	204	v. Barrow	1260, 1261
v. Dalliber	1517	v. Britten	1177
v. Dyer	1278	v. Cole	1732
v. Grant	379, 496, 569, 758, 1087, 1154	v. Crain	90
v. Leslie	240, 244	v. Creighton	1801
v. Lyman	1117, 1125	v. Croft	1555
v. Pride	1853	v. Cutwright	710
v. Shurter	1740	v. Davis	1459
v. Spann	239	v. Dennis	1076
v. Thompson	346, 360	v. Dewit	269
v. Tucker	781	v. Dikeman	67
Grantham v. Hawley	716	v. Fagan	1860
v. Williams	440	v. Green	1518, 1522
Grantley v. Garthwaite	133	v. Hanbury	529, 1817
Granville v. Beaufort	1479	v. Harvey	1265, 1267
Granville, Earl, v. M'Neile	287, 953	v. Hayman	1085
Granwell v. Silby	1943	v. Howard	1116, 1155
Grasser v. Eckart	1474	v. Howell	1502
Gratrix v. Chambers	1376	v. Hudson	410, 1119
Grattan v. Appleton	366, 770, 771, 1515, 1844	v. Jackson	664
v. Grattan	1498, 1502	v. Lord Listowell	1755
Grave v. Salisbury	1332, 1338	v. Malden	739
Gravenor v. Parker	675, 700	v. Marsden	108
Graves v. Boyle	1091	v. Otte	1413, 1419
v. Downey	915	v. Pertwee	1461
v. Griffith	2022	v. Pigot	1253, 1400, 1401
v. Howard	1454	v. Proude	104
v. Hughes	1323	v. Rugely	430
		v. Salmon	1790
		v. Sargeant	937, 938, 1843
		v. Skipworth	46, 71, 109, 111

Green v. Stephens	658	Griesbach v. Freemantle	658
v. Smith	1763	Griesley v. Lord Chesterfield	1392
v. Spear	1499	Grieve v. Grieve	1093
v. Spicer	1266	Grievess v. Case	1068, 1070
v. Symonds	1172, 1178, 1326	v. Rawley	1104
v. Wilcocke	1960	Grievson v. Kirsopp	1658
Green's Estate, In re	1219, 1269	Griffin v. Ashley	1949
Settlement, In re	1204	v. Ferrard	107
Appeal	1104	v. Graham	1072
Greene v. Dennis	1459	v. Griffin	74
v. Greene	1709, 1710	v. Wall	1519
Greenfield v. Bates	552	Griffith v. Beecher	650
Greenhalgh v. Bates	1086, 1257	v. Evan	1125
Greening v. Barker	1426	v. Franklin	1945
v. Brown	1782	v. Griffith	86, 95, 101
v. Fox	1851, 1853	v. Morrison	1391
v. Sheffield	1771	v. Porter	1820
Greenough v. Greenough	75, 352	v. Ricketts	658, 662
v. Martin	167, 217, 353	v. Sheffield	1777
Greensborough v. Underhill	318	v. Williams	893
Greenside v. Benson	539, 2057	v. Wright	461, 561
Greenway v. Greenway	658, 1082, 1085, 1106, 1115	Griffiths, In re	1636
Greenwell v. Greenwell	1410	v. Anthony	983
Greenwood v. Firth	1715	v. Bennet	980
v. Greenwood	37, 40, 1289	v. Frazier	503, 563, 575
v. Percy	1467	v. Gale	1221
v. Roberts	1250	v. Grieve	1088
v. Spiller	1974	v. Griffiths	88, 1472
v. Taylor	1715	v. Hamilton	549, 913, 1478, 1479, 1480
Greenwood's case	29, 30	v. Porter	1836
Trust, In re	1462	v. Pruett	664, 1281
Will, In re	1119, 1124	v. Robins	39, 48
Greer v. McCrackin	186	v. Rogers	1480
Greet v. Greet	1238, 1399	v. Smith	1389
Gregg v. Bethea	1224, 1232	Grim v. Carr	793
v. Boude	1034	Grimani v. Draper	22
v. Currier	534	Grimes v. Harmon	1070, 1081, 1085
v. Wilson	449	v. Talbert	430
Gregory v. Gregory	1833, 1834	Grimke v. Grimke	54
v. Harman	1934	Grimmett v. Grimmett	1068
v. Harrison	539	Grimshawe v. Pickup	1085
v. Hooker	1788, 1789	Grimstead v. Shirley	876, 1896
v. Lockyer	1768	Grimwood v. Cozens	153
v. The Queen's Proctor	83, 97, 101, 102	Grindall v. Grindall	359
v. Smith	1125	Grissell v. Robinson	1871
v. Williams	1777	v. Swinhoe	1449
Gregson's Estate, Re	1465	Griswold v. Chandler	933, 938, 971, 980, 986, 1802, 1805, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846
Greig, In re	101, 153	v. Griswold	826, 991
v. Somerville	1348	v. Hill	894
Grenfell v. Girdlestone	2029	Groce v. Rittenberry	1090
Gresham v. Pyron	435, 496	Groom v. Groom	37
Gresley v. Mousley	6	v. Thomas	20, 22, 30
Gretton v. Howard	1450	Gross's Estate	1090
Greves, In the Goods of	100	Grosvenor v. Durston	1190, 1191
Greville v. Brown	1712, 1717	Groton v. Ruggles	282, 302, 1796
v. Tylee	115, 130, 131, 144, 352	v. Tallman	534
Grey v. Grey	1502	Grout v. Chamberlain	461, 594
v. Pearson	1078, 1080, 1085	Grover v. Grover	5, 777, 781
Grice v. Shaw	688	Groves, In re	1414
Grider v. M'Clay	658, 668	v. Clarke	1417
Griders v. Payne	938	v. Levi	2017
Gridley v. Andrews	1712, 1717	v. Perkins	1417
v. Gridley	1272, 1931		



Groves v. Wright	1396	Hacker v. Newborn	46
Groves's Trust, Re	1194, 1234	Hackett v. Boston &c. R. R. Co.	346
Grubb v. Clayton	1880	Hackettstown Bank v. Mitchell	1522
Grubb's Appeal	709	Hackman v. Black	538, 976
Grubbs v. McGlawn	650	Hackney v. Griffin	1109, 1513
Grundy, In the Goods of	416, 445	v. Vrooman	777
Grylls's Trusts, In re	1120	Haddelsey v. Adams	1260, 1463, 1465
Grymes v. Boweren	744, 747	Haddock v. Trotman	42, 45
v. Howe	770, 771, 772, 774, 776, 777, 779	Haddon v. Fladgate	61, 756
v. Pendleton	1740	Haden v. Bradshaw	121
Guantlett v. Carter	1153	v. Parsons	1836
Guardhouse v. Blackburne	358, 359, 1087	Hadley v. Hopkins Academy	1070, 1072
Gude v. Mumford	1647, 1648	Hadow v. Hadow	1126
Gudgeon v. Ramsden	1538	Hæll v. Blanchard	529
Guest v. Willassey	212	Haffey v. Haffey	2021
Guidot v. Guidot	658	Hagan v. Walker	2006
Guier v. O'Daniel	1522, 1664	Haggard v. Ront	658
Guillamore v. O'Grady	45, 1183	Hagger, In the Goods of	447
Guillaume v. Adderley	1160, 1164, 1166	v. Payne	1091, 1092
Gulick v. Gulick	362	Haglar v. McCoombs	1853
Gullan, In the Goods of	139	Hagthorp v. Hook	539, 630, 986
Re	135	Haig v. Swiney	1193, 1194
v. Grove	139	Haigh v. Gray	2016
Gulliver v. Wickett	1088, 1269	Haight v. Green	791
Gully v. Hall	751	v. Hoyt	793, 1734
Gummor v. Howes	1081	Haigood v. Wells	280
Gums v. Capehart	1377, 1378	Haines v. Price	1656
Gundry v. Pinniger	1078, 1123	v. Welch	715
Gunn v. Hodge	1871	Hains, Re	155
v. Howell	894, 998	Hairston v. Hall	1372
Gunning, In the Goods of	79	v. Hairston	153, 186, 857
Gunter v. Gunter	87, 1676	Hakewell, In the Goods of	99
Gurly v. Gurly	1490	Halbert v. Grant	951
Gurney v. Gurney	1053	Halcomb v. Lake	1086
v. Langlands	349	Haldane v. Eckford	1517, 1519, 1520
Guthrie v. Guthrie	1876	Haldeman v. Haldeman	1093
v. Jones	731, 737, 747	Haldenby v. Spofforth	2034
v. Owen	70	Haldune v. Duche	1731
Guthrie's Appeal	1109	Hale v. Burr	2003
Gutteridge v. Stillwell	872	v. Hale	763, 1250
Guy v. Sharp	1153, 1290, 1293, 1295	v. Monroe	380, 381
Guyther v. Taylor	1225, 1230	v. Roberts	1946
Gwilliam v. Barker	1088	v. Stone	750
Gwillim v. Gwillim	103	v. Tokelove	213, 215, 224, 360
v. Holland	689	Hales v. Barell	1299
Gwin v. Hicks	710	v. Cox	1015, 1714
v. Latimer	1990	v. Freeman	1584, 1646, 1647
v. Wright	117, 121	Haley v. Bannister	1295, 1412
Gwin's Will	118	v. Boston	1108, 1109
Gwinn v. Radford	103	v. Hammersley	727
Gwyer v. Peterson	2011	Haleyburton v. Kershaw	1693, 1894
Gwynn v. Dorsey	1859	Halifax v. Wilson	1693, 1240, 1273
Gwynne v. Edwards	1714	Hall, In the Goods of	111, 539
v. Muddock	1109	Ex parte	752
Gyett v. Williams	1369, 1712, 1717	v. Ashby	293
Gyger's Estate	450	v. Austin	2015
Gyles v. Dyson	1967	v. Bragg	104
v. Gyles	2031	v. Brooker	1709
		v. Browder	718
		v. Bumstead	1946
		v. Carter	1820, 1822, 1833
		v. Costello	371
		v. Cushing	401, 529, 1399, 1796
		v. Davis	1498, 1502
		v. Dench	204
H.			
Habberfield v. Browning	104, 108		
Habergham v. Ridehalgh	1472		
v. Vincent	97, 104, 389		

Hall v. Dewes	955	Hamer v. Hamer	1502
v. Elliott	261, 264	Hamersley v. Lambert	1743
v. Fisher	1079	v. Smith	751
v. Gittings	352	Hames v. Hames	1145
v. Grovier	1863, 2060	Hamilton v. Ashton	1889
v. Hall	33, 51, 77, 87, 88, 347, 650, 1310, 1376, 1377, 1449, 1533, 1743, 1876	v. Bishop	750
v. Hallett	938, 1805, 1843, 1844	v. Buckwater	1446
v. Hancock	1090	v. Boyles	1088, 1261
v. Hewer	1094, 1097	v. Flinn	1088
v. Hill	1084, 1295, 1301, 1303, 1334, 1336, 1447, 1482	v. Hamilton	37
v. Huffam	1741, 1938	v. Incledon	1782
v. Hugonin	856	v. Lloyd	1197
v. Irwin	654	v. Mills	859, 1109
v. Kendall	1041	v. Peaces	107
v. Luckup	1097	v. Wilson	1669
v. May	960	v. Worley	1696, 1699, 1700
v. McDonald	1040	Hamilton's Estate	188
v. Monroe	575	Hamlet v. Johnson	1216
v. Nalder	1112	Hamletts v. Hamletts	1093
v. Pearman	594	Hamlin v. Osgood	1113
v. Pratt	1310, 1317	v. Stevenson	17
v. Priest	1082, 1106	Hammersley v. Baron De Biel	752
v. Robertson	1276	Hammon v. Huntley	949, 1894, 1947
v. Severn	8	Hammond, In the Goods of	89
v. Sims	347	v. Douglass	1658
v. Tapper	1000, 1030, 1992	v. Gatcliffe	1729
v. Thayer	418, 440	v. Hammond	1165, 1295, 1387, 1420
v. Tokelove	186	v. Jethro	651
v. Tufts	1266	v. Manle	1235, 1240
v. Walbridge	808	v. Putnam	662
v. Walker	814	v. Smith	1296
v. Warren	21, 22, 23, 37, 1075, 1084, 1269	Hamond v. Jethro	1740
v. Waterhouse	61	Hampson, In the Goods of	508
v. Wilson	1853	v. Brandwood	1112
v. Woodman	549, 1803	Hampton v. Boyer	1930
v. Wyborn	1950	Hamrick v. Craven	932
v. Young	749, 846	Hanbury v. Hanbury	1301
Hall's Appeal	1843	v. Kirkland	1826, 1828
Hallet v. Bassett	1517, 1518, 1519, 1521	v. Spooner	1281
Hallett v. Allen	1387, 1424, 1844	Hanby v. Fisher	1717
v. Hare	1497, 1511	v. Roberts	1716
v. Thompson	1266	Hancock v. American Life Ins. Co.	318
Halley v. Webster	22, 23, 346	v. Hancock	1536, 1538
Halliwell, In the Goods of	154	v. Hubbard	1496
Re	153	v. Minot	1693
v. Tanner	1695	v. Peaty	483
Hallowell v. Phipps	1097, 1098	v. Podmore	969, 970, 1788
v. Saco	1519	v. Prowd	266, 1034, 1040, 1805, 1921, 1963, 1974
Hallowell's Estate	1670	v. Titus	1241
Hally, In the Goods of	97	Hancom v. Allen	1811, 1820
Hallyburton, In re	373	Hancox v. Abbey	1708, 1711
Goods of	56	Hand, In the Goods of	1190
Halton v. Foster	1120	v. James	93
Ham v. Goodrich	1769	Handberry v. Doolittle	1091, 1093
Ham's Trust	1116, 1216	Handley v. Fitzhugh	1990
Hamberlin v. Tenny	1769	v. Stacey	41
v. Terry	576	Handly v. Snodgrass	1844
Hamblett v. Hamblett	336, 1441	Hands v. James	101
Hambling v. Lister	1322	Handy v. The State	1844
Hamblly v. Trott	1723, 1729, 1930	Hanford v. Bockee	749
Hambrook v. Symmonds	775	Hanna v. Munn	581
		v. Pegg	1732
		Hanna's Appeal	1705, 1707

Hannah v. Peake	350	Hargraves v. Holden	1872
Hannam, Re	148	Hargrave's case	878, 1753
v. Mockett	705	Hargreaves v. Michel	2028
v. Sims	1153, 1219	Hargroves v. Thompson	630
Hannay v. Taynton	507	Hargthorpe v. Millforth	1820, 1976
Hannum v. Day	529, 534, 1691	Harker v. Irick	534
Hansbrough v. Hooe	1321	v. Whitaker	1731
Hansen v. Miller	861, 1130	Harlan, Estate of	291, 430
Hansford v. Elliott	265, 273, 1091, 1880	v. Harlan	730
Hanson v. Graham	1224, 1231, 1234, 1235	Harland's Accounts	1851, 1853
v. Worthington	282, 302	Harle v. Greenbank	1429
Hantz v. Sealy	1941	Harleston v. Corbett	345
Hapgood v. Houghton	881, 968, 1258, 1449, 1788, 1790, 1874, 1938, 1974	Harley v. Bagshaw	107
v. Southgate	1879, 1951	v. Mitford	1098, 1112
Happiss v. Eskridge	412	v. Moon	1359, 1361
Happoldt v. Jones	1876	Harman v. Harman	1029, 1030
Happy's Will	379, 380	Harmer v. Johnson	1990
Haraden v. Larabee	1119, 1514	v. Steele	1312
Harbert, Sir W., case	1741	Harmony, The, case of	1517
Harbin v. Darby	1854, 1861	Harwood v. Oglander	1693
v. Levi	915, 1875	Harness v. Green	998
Harcourt v. Morgan	1197, 1437	Harney v. Dutcher	915
v. Seymour	658	v. Richards	362
v. White	2031	Harper, In re	17
v. Wrenham	1682	v. Archer	650, 1090
v. Wrennan	1660	v. Bibb	1166
Harcum v. Hudnall	662	v. Butler	362
Hardacre v. Nash	1079	v. Harper	17, 21, 40, 87, 345, 346, 347, 360, 584
Hardcastle v. Hardcastle	1234, 1245	v. McWhorter	749
Harden v. Forsyth	2001	v. Phelps	108, 1127
v. Hays	20, 22, 352	v. Smith	461, 650
v. Parsons	1809, 1833	Harrel v. Harrel	37, 39, 46, 47, 360
Hardaway v. Parham	575	v. Davenport	1431
Harder v. Harder	124	v. Scudder	1937
Harder's Will	89	Harring v. Allen	360
Hardin v. Smith	856	Harrington v. Bradford	106
Harding v. Cobb	749	v. Brown	576, 650, 938
v. Edge	1005	v. Harrington	725
v. Evans	1794	Harrington's Trusts, In re	1413
v. Glyn	1117	Harris, In the Goods of	138, 147
v. Harding	115, 351, 1630	In re	1554
v. Salkill	1943	v. Alderson	1092
v. Trotter	658	v. Allen	1498
Harding's case	818	v. American Bible Society	1058
Hardinge, In the Goods of	448	v. Barnes	1063
Hardstone, In the Goods of	519, 546	v. Bedford	85, 86
Hardwick v. Thomas	539	v. Berall	21, 42, 147
v. Thurston	1219	v. Clark	658, 779
Hardwicke, Earl of, v. Douglas	185	v. Creashaw	1728
Hardy, In the Goods of	360	v. Davis	1106, 1107, 1216, 1219, 1460, 1467
v. Hardy	549	v. Dillard	575
v. Hawkshaw	658	v. Farwell	1747
v. James	1951	v. Fergusson	650
v. State	347	v. Finch	1431
v. Thomas	270	v. Fly	1243, 1252, 1693, 1931
Hare, In re	907	v. Gandy	2011
In the Goods of	102, 330	v. Goodwyn	1739
v. Horton	740	v. Harris	1490
v. Nasmyth	369	v. Howe, Earl	1636
Harecourt v. Wrenham	1992	v. Jones	1897
Harewood v. Child	1707	v. Lloyd	1092, 1101
Harford v. Browning	1285	v. Martin	1853
Hargood v. Wells	2033	v. Milburn	522, 525, 526

## TABLE OF CASES.

2479

Harris v. Panama R. R. Co.	360	Hartford &c. R. R. Co. v. Andrews	797
v. Parker	1804, 1860	Hartley v. Hurle	1708
v. Philpot	1108, 1440	v. Tribber	8, 1081, 1100, 1101
v. Paynter	1663, 1177	Hartman v. Dawdel	694, 856, 857
v. Puc	74	Hartnett v. Wandall	226, 239, 245, 247, 275, 293
v. Saunders	998	Hartop v. Whitmore	1332
v. Savage	1860	Hartopp v. Hartopp	1333
v. Seals	630	Hartsheld v. Allen	1806
v. Slaght	1058	Hartshon v. Nicholson	1068
v. Watkins	1693	Hartwell v. Chitters	1681, 1682, 1683
Harris's Appeal	1502	v. Colman	1356
Estate	1120	v. Colvin	2023
Will	89	v. Rice	1502
Harrison v. All persons in general	442	Hartz's Appeal	534
Harrison, In the Goods of	88, 503, 538	Hartzell v. Brown	2035
v. Andrews	858	v. Commonwealth	470, 532
v. Barton	652	Harvard College v. Amory	1394
v. Beccles 1920, 1921, 1963, 1978		v. Gore	1519
v. Bowe	1086	Harven v. Springs	549
v. Elvin	94	Harvey, In the Goods of	379
v. Foreman	1272	v. Aston	658
v. Foster	1176	v. Chouteau	97, 211, 213
v. Graham	280, 1830, 1831	v. Cook	1197
v. Grimmond	1235	v. Harvey	738, 1118, 1168, 1177, 1187, 1414, 1429, 2039
v. Grimwood	1243	v. Palmer	1304, 1309
v. Harrison	93, 108, 283, 285, 1061, 1123, 1157, 1476	v. Richards	362, 1515, 1516, 1517, 1664
v. Henderson	1039	v. Sullens	39, 45, 48
v. Hyde	1153	Harvy v. Ashton	1258, 1264
v. Johnson	345	Harwell v. Harwell	766
v. M'Mahon	449	Harwood v. Baker	40, 46, 352
v. McNennomy	1895	v. Fisher	856
v. Mitchell	578	v. Goodright	6, 178
v. Morton	1153	v. Hilliard	1723
v. Moseley	800	v. Marye	820
v. Naylor	1253	v. Oglander	204
v. Nixon	366, 1088, 1108	v. Wraynam	1682
v. Rowan	12, 19, 23, 33, 40, 94, 114, 115, 346, 350, 351, 360, 549	Haselfoot v. Haselfoot	975
v. Rowley	262, 1285	Haselinton v. Gill	749
v. Sterry	990, 1664	Haselwood v. Green	1109
v. Stone	354	v. Pope	1707
v. Taylor	1975	Haskell v. Bowen	878
v. Turbeville	534	v. Brown	1871
v. Ward	1120	v. House	654
v. Weldon	578, 579	Haskins, Re	91
Harrison's case	996, 1009, 1022	v. Hawkes	258, 687
Will	46, 47	v. Miller	452
Harrod v. Harrod	17, 41	Haslage v. Krugh	817, 820
Harrop v. Wilson	828	Hasler v. Hasler	1844
Harrop's Estate, Re	669	Haslett v. Glenn	647, 718
Hart v. Hart	108	Haslewood v. Green	1370
v. Lindsey	1517, 1522	Hassanclever v. Tucker	1705, 1712
v. Marks	1216, 1460	Hassel v. Tynte	777
v. Middlehurst	1686	Hassell v. Dawkins	1297
v. Minors	1934	v. Hassell	1717
v. Stephens	849, 852, 862	Hassinger's Appeal	461
v. Ten Eyck	980, 985	Hastelow v. Stobie	350
v. Tribe	1026	Hastings v. Clifford	1444, 1449
v. Tulk	1085	v. Douglas, Sir Archibald	722, 764, 766
v. White	1178	v. Hane	1189, 1457
Hart's Trusts, In re	1234, 1243, 1253	v. Rider	342, 343, 346
Harter v. Harter	359	Hatch v. Atkinson	770, 774, 775, 776
v. Taggart	1946		

Hatch v. Hatch	1487, 1511	Hawkins's Will	1217
v. Mills	1093	Hawksworth v. Hawksworth	1085
v. Proctor	269, 273, 302, 631, 633, 635	Hawley v. Cramer	938
v. Searles	2040	v. James	663, 1502, 1693, 1820, 1860
v. Skelton	1694	v. Northampton	1079
v. Straight	1485, 1502	Hawn v. Banks	1207
Hatchcraft v. Tilford	1941	v. Hanks	1082
Hatcher v. Robertson	1204	Hawthorn v. Shedden	1693
Hatcraft v. Gentry	1895	Haxall v. Lee	440
Hatfield v. Pryme	665	Hay, In the Goods of	311
Hathaway v. Leary	1093, 1224, 1232	Hay v. Bowen	2038
v. Valentine	650	v. Bruere	1889
Hatherton, Lord, v. Bradburne	817	v. Coventry	1078, 1088
Hathorn v. King	346, 360	v. Fairlie	1638
Hathornwaite v. Russell	236, 237, 387	v. Mullo	50
Hattat v. Hattat	108	v. Palmer	824, 835
Hatton, In the Goods of	1420	Hayden v. Burch	1502
v. Mascue	486	v. Stoughton	1258, 1459
v. May	1195, 1266	Haydon v. Rose	1086, 1273
Hauchet's case	695	v. Wilshere	1112
Hauck v. Stauffer	1763	v. Wood	655
Haughton v. Harrisio	567, 1216	Hayes v. Goode	2029
Haus v. Palmer	120, 121, 345	v. Hayes	176, 292, 294, 1165
Hauser v. Lehman	1820, 1833	v. Seaver	1718
v. Shore	935	Hayle v. Hasted	339, 549
Havard v. Davis	148, 179, 187, 206, 380	Hayler v. Tucker	811
Haven v. Foster	214, 216, 218, 219, 371	Hayling v. Okey	719
v. Hilliard	87	Haynes, In the Goods of	229
Havens v. Havens	1191	v. Forshaw	932, 937, 1713, 1773
v. Sackett	1441, 1442	v. Haynes	1360, 1369, 1370, 1402, 1649
v. Van Den Burgh	192, 195	v. Hill	99
Haver v. Sheetz	1086	v. Matthews	425, 447, 450
Havergal v. Harrison	567, 1216	v. Meek	574
Havers v. Havers	482, 2032	v. Mico	1298
Haverstock v. Sarback	1502	Hayron v. Wolfe	255
Haviland v. Bloom	1414	Hays, In the Goods of	118
Haw v. Earles	1079	Hays v. Doane	739, 744
Hawarden v. Dunlop	363, 522	v. Gourley	658
Hawes v. Humphrey	87, 204, 347	v. Harden	77, 352
v. Leader	261	v. Jackson	6, 294, 461, 650, 1310, 1474, 1693, 1705, 1712, 1717
v. Smith	1779	Haysradt v. Kingman	90
Hawke v. All persons, &c.	441	Hayter v. Moat	1790, 1938
v. Wedderburne	447	v. Trego	1076
Hawkes v. Baldwin	1268	v. Tucker	1061
v. Barrett	2011	Hayton v. Wolfe	276, 310
v. Hawkes	111	Hayward v. Constable	1914, 1917
v. Saunders	1375, 1771, 1777, 1783, 1931, 1932	v. Dale	284
Hawkins v. Allen	1062, 1066	v. Ellis	1861
v. Blewitt	775	v. Hayward	691, 696, 1108
v. Combe	1431	v. James	1263, 1273
v. Craig	691	v. Kinsey	986, 1805
v. Day	1022, 1029, 1342, 1348, 1821	Hazard v. Hazard	46, 49
v. Everett	1091, 1092	v. Hefford	49
v. Grimes	21	Hazelden v. Whitesides	265, 273
v. Hamerton	1467	Hazelrig v. Hazelrig	1079
v. Hawkins	1096, 1193, 1392	Hazelton v. Valentine	1310
v. Johnson	258, 263	Hazen v. Durling	534, 1914
v. Kelly	827, 828	Head v. Godlee	663, 665
v. Lawse	1660, 1682	v. Manners	1803
v. Skeggs	1276	v. Mannin	1947
v. Watts	1411	v. Randall	1082, 1112, 1513
Hawkins & Lawse's case	277	Headen v. Rosher	62
Hawkins's Trusts, In re	1063, 1281		

Headington v. Holloway	350, 377	Helie v. Baker	892
Headley v. Kirby	771, 774, 776, 778	Helier v. Casbert	1755, 1758
v. Redhead	1693, 1719	Hellawell v. Eastwood	730
Heager's Executors	1841	Hellier, Ex parte	572
Heal v. Knight	1630	v. Casbard	1751, 1938
Heald v. Thing	360	v. Hellier	497
Healey v. Root	1896	Helm v. Franciscus	1459
v. Toppan	1169, 1171, 1172, 1176, 1177, 1391, 1393, 1394, 1395, 1396, 1402	Helme v. Sanders	361, 363, 364, 370, 371
Heap v. Barton	747	Helyar v. Helyar	157, 160, 161, 179
Heard v. Drake	1036, 1909	Heming v. Clutterbuck	1291
v. Horton	1108, 1109, 1277	Hemming v. Gurrey	1291, 1292
v. Lodge	534, 1803	Hemmings v. Munckley	1275
v. Stanford	1767	Hemphill v. Hamilton	1874
Hearle v. Greenbank	53, 1443	v. Harford	751
v. Hicks	8, 185, 1088	v. Hemphill	93
Hearn v. Baker	1465	Hench v. Metzger	1728
v. Wells	647, 2036, 2037, 2039	Henchman v. Att. Gen.	658, 1075
Hearne v. Barber	1538, 1543, 1544	Hender v. Hender	1534
v. Kevan	1373, 1376	v. Rose	1503
v. Wells	1924	Henderson, In the Goods of	370, 430
v. Wiggington	1178, 1454, 1458	Re	1129, 1144
Hearrin v. Savage	1860, 1861	v. Clarke	430, 630
Heasman v. Pearse	1463, 1465	v. Cross	1267
v. Pease	832	v. French	982, 983, 984
Heater v. Van Auken	1091, 1093, 1099 1101	v. Henderson	1109, 1876
Heath v. Allen	1820, 1827	v. Kennicot	1263
v. Allin	935	v. M'Iver	1860
v. Attworth	572	v. Regan	221
v. Brindley	2001	v. Rost	432
v. Chapman	1056, 1058, 1072	v. Simmons	1851, 1860
v. Chilton	881, 911, 1869	v. Vaulx	1176, 1396
v. Dendy	1365	v. Wilson	663
v. Lewis	1276	v. Winchester	959
v. Percival	2013	v. Womack	1513
v. Perry	1428, 1429, 1430, 1431	Hendricks v. Robinson	1843
v. Sampson	1517	v. Snodgrass	478
v. Watts	348	v. Thornton	956
v. Wells	1803	Hendrin v. Colgin	412, 413, 872
v. Weston	1196	Henfrey v. Henfrey	164, 169, 204, 239
v. White	1099	Hengst's Appeal	1820, 1828
v. Withington	54, 56, 384	Henley v. Philipps	15
Heath's Settlement, In re	1112, 1263	v. Philipps	2039
Heathcote v. Hulme	1432, 1846	Henningham v. Windham	903
Heathe v. Heathe	1463	Henningham's case	1722
Heathman v. Hall	750	Henny v. State	1844
Heatley v. Thomas	61	Henry, Ex parte	69
Heaton v. Findlay	730	v. Archer	1106
v. Hassell	869	v. Estes	448
Hebben, In re	122	v. Means	1112
Heck v. Clippenger	1125	Hensely v. Dodge	452
Hedges v. Harpur	1111, 1112, 1195	Henshall v. Matthew	907
v. Hedges	770, 771, 1700	v. Roberts	881, 1874
Hegarty's Appeal	377, 549, 552, 560	Henshaw v. Atkinson	1064
Hegeman v. Fox	1517, 1519, 1521	v. Blood	533
Heighington v. Grant	1852, 1856, 2035	v. Miller	793
Heinmuller v. Gray	1734	Hensloe's case	276, 283, 284, 292, 293, 401, 402, 403, 418, 449, 561, 956, 1312, 1867
Heisler v. Knipe	958	Hensman v. Fryer	1696, 1717
Heiss v. Murphy	1076	Henson v. Ott	660
Heisse v. Markland	1091	Henvell v. Whitaker	1287
Heister's Appeal	1860	Hepburn v. Hepburn	1387, 1425, 1805
Hele v. Lord Bexley	2017	v. Skirving	221
v. Stowell	593	Hepburn's Appeal	1751
		Hepworth v. Hill	1698, 1702

Herald v. Harper	950	Heydock's Appeal	432
Herbert v. Herbert	62, 104, 117, 757, 761	Heyer v. Berger	77, 89
v. Lowms	40, 45	Heygate v. Annealey	866
v. Pigott	946	Heylin v. Heylin	214
v. Powis	1777	Heyward v. Hazard	86, 346
v. Reid	1088, 1149	v. Heyward	1078, 1086, 1108, 1207
v. Sheill	544	Heyward's case	1837
v. Torball	17, 225	Heywood v. Heywood	1894
v. Tuthill	654, 658	Hibbard v. Kent	630
v. Wren	1445	Hibben v. Calemberg	584
Herbert's Trusts, In re	1099, 1101, 1153	Hickey v. Hayter	1000, 1030, 1972, 1992
Herbert's, Sir William, case	1099, 1101, 1153	v. Hickey	1446
Hereford, Bishop of, v. Hereford	1070	Hickling v. Boyer	1344, 1348, 1694, 1764
Hereford v. Ravenhill	658, 663	Hickman v. Bacon	658
Herefordshire Bank, In re	1748	v. Kamp	1967
Herrakenden's case	708, 709, 732	v. Upsall	318, 1360, 1402, 1403
Herrnstead's Estate	1853	v. Walker	1879
Herne, In the Goods of	70, 74, 329	Hicks, In the Goods of	127, 154
Herns v. Drake	815	v. Branton	1868
Heron v. Heron	1366, 1544	v. Doe	185
v. Hoffner	878, 1867, 1871	v. Forrest	1498
v. Stokes	569, 1259, 1513	v. Keat	628, 1572
Herr's Appeal	758	Hide v. Haywood	2035
Estate	1211	Higbee v. Bacon	292, 1901
Herrenden v. Palmer	1938	Higginbotham v. Cornwell	1445
Herrick v. Franklin	1112	Higgins v. Carlton	21, 37, 38, 39, 40, 46, 47, 49, 87, 88, 347, 360
Herridge v. Bransby	45	v. Crawford	2029
Herrington v. Bradford	74	v. Higgins	978, 1342
v. Budd	204	Higgins's Trusts, Re	1953
Hershaw v. Whitaker	1782	Higginson v. Colcot	47
Hertall v. Bogert	932, 933, 935, 943, 947	Higgon v. Mortimer	731
Hertford, Lord, v. Lowther, Lord	1178, 1180, 1290, 1291, 1426	High v. Worley	658
v. Zichi	2019	Hight v. Wilson	10, 67
Hervey v. Desbouverie	1534, 1536	Hilbert v. Lewis	1936
v. Fitzpatrick	361, 433, 1663	Hilborn v. Hester	410, 412
v. M'Laughlin	1260, 1261, 1263, 1273	Hildreth v. Marshall	1972
Heseltine v. Heseltine	1327	Hill, In the Goods of	117, 429
Heslop, In the Goods of	582	v. Atkinson	1555, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616
Hess's Appeal	19	v. Bacon	1239
Estate	1847	v. Barge	91, 93, 111
Hease, Elector of, In the Goods of	429, 438, 522	v. Beach	666
Hester v. Hester	654, 1223	Hill's Trusts, In re	1260
v. Wesson	1776	Hill v. Bell	69
Hetherington v. Oakman	1085	v. Bird	581, 582
Heuser v. Harris	1070, 1076	v. Blankett	1545
Heuston v. Heuston	1894	v. Bowman	1127
Howard v. Wheatley	1745, 1748	v. Brennan	877
Hewes v. Dehon	1693, 1694, 1697	v. Buckminster	1894
v. Hewes	2049	v. Buford	647
Hewett v. Foster	1822, 1823, 1824, 2035	v. Chapman	771, 776
Hewison v. Negus	755	v. Cock	663
Hewit v. Wright	665	v. Curtis	264, 267, 268, 269, 407
Hewitt v. Kaye	779	v. Davis	312
v. Morris	1391, 1392	v. De Rochemont	731
v. Wright	658	v. Gomme	1351
Hewlet v. Framingham	1954	v. Henderson	259, 267
Hewlett v. Cook	352	v. Hill	294, 1165, 1175, 1428, 1474
v. Wood	346	v. Mills	236, 237, 238
Hawson v. Reed	1200	v. Moore	1497
Hewston v. Phillips	1935	v. Rattey	1195
Heydock v. Duncan	529, 575	v. Robeson	1974
		v. Rockingham Bank	1091

Hill v. Sewald	744	Hix & Uxor v. Harrison	235
v. Simpson	937, 938	Hix v. Whittemore	23
v. Smalley	956, 1867	Hixon v. Wytham	104
v. Spruill	1513	Hoagland v. Schenck	1387, 1390, 1393, 1424
v. Townsend	857	Hoak v. Hoak	1502
v. Tucker	226, 293, 362, 1929	Hoar v. Contencin	1745
v. Walker	185, 1049, 1803	v. Osborne	1071, 1073, 1218
v. Wentworth	730, 740	Hoath v. Hoath	1233
Hillam v. Walker	240, 376	Hobart v. Conn. Turnpike Co.	361, 1929
Hillersdon v. Grove	9	v. Fisbie	1682
Hilliard, In re	1847	Hobbs v. Knight	130, 134, 138, 182, 203, 216
v. Binford	549	v. Middleton	534
Hilliary v. Hilliary	1093	v. Parsons	1234
Hillman v. Stevens	650	Hobday v. Peters	1686
Hills v. Hills	775	Hobgen v. Neale	1112, 1211
v. Mills	449, 517	Hobson v. Blackburn	11, 126, 1079, 1720
v. M'Rea	1742	v. Neale	1630
Hillyard v. Taylor	1720	Hoby v. Hoby	20, 69
Hillyer v. Dunn	1216, 1462	Hock v. Hock	74
Hilton v. Giraud	1061	Hocker v. Gentry	1091
v. Hilton	1238	v. Hocker	74
Hilyard's Estate	809, 1389, 1390, 1391, 1424, 1427	Hockley v. Bautock	1815
Hinchcliffe v. Hinchcliffe	1297	v. Mawbey	1112
Hinchliffe v. Westwood	1129	Hodgdon v. White	1802, 1803, 1946
Hinckley, In re	466	Hodge v. Clare	512
v. Maclarens	1120	v. Hawkins	1851, 1853
v. Simmons	191, 1260	Hodges v. Bauchman	334
Hind v. Selby	1163, 1177, 1263, 1465	v. Beverly	850
Hind's Estate	691	v. Cox	2000
Hinde v. Blake	2045, 2046	v. Grant	1160, 1463
v. Morton	1910, 2010	v. Green	204
v. Skelton	1943	v. Peacock	1290, 1293
Hindle v. Taylor	1360	v. Waddington	1451
Hindley v. Russell	1979, 1980	Hodgson v. Ambrose	1079, 1088
Hindmarch, In the Goods of	131	v. Bibby	2031
Hindmarsh v. Charlton	90, 94, 95	v. Clarke	1152
v. Southgate	2012	v. De Beauchesne	1517, 1519, 1521
Hindsley v. Russell	1971	v. Macy	1502
Hindson v. Wetherill	112, 552	v. Rawson	1254
Hine v. Hine	127, 1332, 1333	v. Rex	1178
Hingeston v. Tucker	337	v. Smithson	1211
Hinings v. Hinings	1422	Hodgson's Trust, In re	1463
Hinkle v. Eichelberger	499, 587	Hodkinson v. Quinn	656
Hinney v. Phillips	752	Hodnett v. Smith	347
Hinson v. Button	1381	Hodsden v. Harridge	1879, 1883
Hinton v. Kennedy	1797	v. Lloyd	54, 192, 922
v. Parker	983	Hodson v. —	390
v. Pinke	1160, 1161	Hoe v. Nelthorpe	1889
v. Toye	1686	Hoell v. Blanchard	533
v. Whitehurst	1692	Hoes v. Van Hoesen	1693, 1707
Hinves v. Hinves	1163, 1176, 1177, 1392	Hoey v. Kinney	668
Hippealey v. Homer	45, 1153	Hoff's Appeal	1697, 1701
Hirst v. Smith	917, 1871	Hoffman v. Hoffman	67, 88, 90
v. Tolson	1766	v. Norris	334, 336
Hise v. Fincher	137	Hogan v. Grosvenor	77, 87, 88, 89
Hitch v. Davis	776, 1424	v. Hogan	1224
Hitchen v. Birks	496, 500	Hoge v. Fisher	21, 22
Hitchens v. Hitchens	689	Hoge's case	47
Hitchings v. Wood	68, 107, 112, 113, 159, 168, 350	Hogg v. Cook	1104
Hitchins v. Bassett	165	v. Graham	1980
Hitchman v. Walton	740	v. Jones	725
Hitchon v. Bennett	1690	v. Lashley	104, 1515
Hite v. Hite	652, 1367		



Hoghton v. Whitgreave	1242	Holloway v. Lightbourne	849
Hoke v. Fleming	946	v. Millard	754
v. Herman	1322	v. Radcliffe	658, 1123
Holbert, Succession of	971, 1860	v. Webber	725, 1399
Matter of	1846	Hollway v. Clarke	196
Holbrook v. Bentley	529	v. Collins	1405
v. Harrington	1108, 1469, 1796	Holly v. Sur. Gen.	1853
v. White	785, 876, 1721	Holman v. Chute	1871
Holcomb v. Holcomb	1806, 1820, 1861	v. King	1088
v. Phelps	362, 371, 990	v. Perry	54, 56, 62, 384
Holden v. Fletcher	529, 974, 1946	Holman's Appeal	1693, 1853
Holden v. Kynaston	2011	Holme v. Hammond	1742
v. Ramsbottom	1181	Holmes v. Bridgman	1806
Holderby v. Walker	1459	v. Clark	754
Holderness v. Reyner	1470, 1471	v. Cock	237, 529, 534
Holderness, Lady, v. Lord Carmarthen	809	v. Coghill	1686
Holdfast v. Pardoe	1088	v. Constance	1199
Holdich v. Holdich	1445, 1448	v. Dring	1809
Holdsworth v. Davenport	1061	v. Field	66, 1276
Hole v. Dolman	412	v. Godson	1267
v. King	877	v. Greene	1519, 1521
Holford v. Wood	1289	v. Holmes	857, 871, 1086, 1153, 1335, 1434, 1860
Holgate, In the Goods of	103	v. Mead	1070, 1153
v. Jennings	1123, 1163, 1177, 1211, 1392	v. Mitchell	1051, 1396
Holl v. Bradford	792, 1733	v. Moore	1732
Holland v. Adams	665	v. Murcott	901
v. Allsopp	1467	v. Penney	754
v. Bouldin	1288	v. Remsen	1515, 1664
v. Clark	1933, 2029, 2051	v. Tutton	1898
v. Cruft	658, 665, 1679	Holmesdale v. West	725
v. Ferries	157, 379	Holt, Ex parte	2054
v. Hodgson	730	In the Goods of	163, 177
v. Holland	1020	v. Frederick	1499
v. Hughes	1394, 1810	v. Hogan	1428
v. King	406	v. Murray	997
v. Moody	846	v. Sindrey	1101, 1102
v. Peck	1076	v. Winchester, Bishop of	672
v. Prior	979, 2014	Holyland, Ex parte	16, 23
v. Wood	1085, 1097	Holyoke v. Haskins	291, 549, 563, 575, 586, 1522, 1523
Hollenbeck v. Berkshire R. R. Co.	796, 1734	Home v. Medcraft	1169
v. Pixley	763	v. Pillans	1260, 1262, 1263
Holley v. Adams	779	v. Pringle	1822, 1825
v. Christopher	1895	Homer v. Shelton	108, 185, 1080, 1081, 1084, 1389, 1396
Holliday v. Atkinson	779	Hone v. Kent	1166
v. Boas	1313	v. Medcraft	1329
v. Bowman	1710	v. Van Shaick	1078, 1080, 1082, 1090, 1097, 1103, 1224, 1233, 1235, 1399
v. Dailey	749	Honner v. Morton	856
v. Fletcher	1937	Honywood, In the Goods of	378
v. Ward	549	v. Foster	1442
Hollingshead v. Sturgis	172	Hood v. Archer	54
Hollingshead's case	1913	v. Barrington, Lord	293, 361, 363, 590, 592
Hollingsworth v. Grassett	1285	v. Clapham	1163, 1177
Hollingsworth v. Ascue	1009	v. Hood	204
Hollis v. Coonan	1084	v. Oglander	1266
v. Smith	876, 877, 1896	v. Link	1941
Hollis Street Meeting House v. Pierpont	1057	v. Pimm	1912
Hollis's case	2028	Hood's case	1518
Hollister v. Attmore	1502	Estate	1851
Holloway v. Clarkson	1131	Hooe v. Hooe	1088
v. Galloway	87		
v. Holloway	1088, 1108, 1124, 1137, 1141, 1144		

Hook v. Hook	1498, 1502	Hosack v. Rogers	1039, 1844, 1861, 2038
v. Payne	1851	Hosea v. Jacobs	1153, 1250
Hooker v. Bancroft	981	Hoshauer v. Hoshauer	350
v. Olmstead	362, 980	Hosier v. Arundell, Lord	881, 882, 1670, 1873
v. Wells	1872	Hosking v. Nicholls	1166, 1845
Hool v. Bell	929	Hoskins v. Campbell	2011
Hooley v. Hatton	1290, 1294	v. Matthews	1517, 1519, 1520, 1521
Hooper v. Goodwin	1770	v. Miller	410, 1119
v. Gorham	793	Hosetter's Appeal	575
v. Hooper	1221, 1909	Hoste v. Pratt	1090, 1091
v. Stewart	409, 563, 575, 586	Hotchkin v. Humfrey	1249
v. Summersett	259, 266, 267, 268, 1975	Hotchkiss v. Beach	2062
Hooper's Will, Re Estate	1910	Hotchkiss's Trust, In re	1211
Hoopes v. Brinton	1844	Hotham v. Sutton	1179, 1183
v. Dundas	1275, 1277	Hotinger v. Wightman	1522
Hoot v. Sorrell	757	Houblon, In the Goods of	213
Hooton v. Head	179	Houck v. Houck	655
Hoover v. Hoover	1693, 1931	Houel v. Barnes	954
v. Miller	1966	Hough v. Bailey	530, 932, 933
Hope v. Bague	1753, 1987, 1993	Houghton v. Franklin	1389, 1390
v. Carnegie	1912, 1928	v. Houghton	666
v. Potter	1085	v. Kendall	1097, 1109, 1112, 1120
Hopgood v. Parkin	1804	House v. Grant	781
Hopkins v. Albertson	352	v. House	1704
v. Graffenreid	352	v. Petre, Lord	284, 285
v. Towns	261, 265	Houston v. Clark	749
Hopkins's Trusts, Re	1466	Houze v. Houze	1187
Hopkinson v. Leach	1049	Hovenden v. Annesley	2023
v. Roe	1859	Hovey v. Blakeman	1826, 1833, 1857
Hopkirk v. Randolph	754	v. Chase	17, 38, 40
Hopper's Estate	347	v. Newton	1750, 1752
Hoppock v. Tucker	1211, 1218	v. Page	800
Hopton v. Dryden	1041, 1046	v. Smith	991, 1011
Hopwood v. Hopwood	212, 1153, 1131, 1332, 1333, 1335	How v. Waldron	1463
v. Watts	1000	Howard, In the Goods of	9
v. Whaley	1756	v. American Peace Society	1070, 1076, 1088, 1153, 1154
Horah v. Horah	1389, 1909	v. Baillie	1787
Horbach v. Denniston	40	v. Collins	1211
Hord v. Lee	1947	v. Conway	1200
Horde v. Lord Suffolk	1076	v. Damiani	61
Hore v. Becher	859	v. Digby	760, 762
v. Woulfe	864, 875	v. Fessenden	728
Horn, Estate of	418	v. Howard	1260, 1396, 1465, 1513, 2005
v. Coleman	1462	v. Jemmett	637, 1978
v. Gartman	105	v. Menifee	781
v. Lyeth	1106	v. Oakes	852
Hornby, Ex parte	1085	v. Papera	237
Horne v. Horne	40, 1519, 1521	v. Powers	1938, 1940
Horner, In re	660	v. Priest	666
Hornidge v. Wilson	1759	v. White	1052
Hornsey v. Dimocke	1872	v. Wilson	1149
Horridge v. Ferguson	1085	Howard's Will	92, 103, 347
Horry v. Glover	1177, 1396	Howarth v. Rothwell	1360
Horsam v. Target	2000, 2001	Howden, Lord, In the Goods of	97
Horseman v. Abbey	1131	Howe, Matter of	1052
Horsepool v. Watson	1112, 1137	v. Bemis	848
Horskins v. Morel	426	v. Dartmouth, Lord,	1163, 1176, 1392, 1394, 1395, 1810, 1811, 1820
Horsley v. Challoner	2049, 2052	v. Howe	26, 46, 49, 50, 360, 1163
Horton v. Brocklehurst	1827, 1829		
v. Johnson	94		
v. McCoy	668		
Horwood v. Griffith	1153, 1167, 1202		

Howe v. Peabody	533	Hues v. Jackson	1219
v. Whitebank	961	Huff v. Huff	87
Howe, Earl, v. Litchfield, Earl of 1596,	1609	v. Wright	749
Howell v. Barden	51, 80, 359	Huffam v. Hubbard	1465
v. Blodgett	1800	Huger v. Dawson	989, 1953
v. Gaylor	1131, 1189	Huggins v. Alexander	977
v. Green	1243	v. Toler	793
v. Hanforth	835	v. York Building Company	900, 920
v. Hooks	1163	Hugh v. Ryley	1416
v. Jones	257	v. Smith	1849
v. Price	1020	Hughes, In the Goods of	378
v. Metcalfe	515, 545, 546	v. Boyd	1276
v. Trontman	45	v. Cook	538
Howells v. Jenkins	1442, 1450	v. Ellis	1206, 1267
Howens v. Van Den Burgh	197	v. Empson	1816
Howes v. Bigelow	847	v. Hosking	214
v. Herring	1226	v. Hughes	191, 198, 204, 346, 1090, 1098, 1108, 1248, 1483
Howgrave v. Cartier	1248	v. Jones	221
Howkins v. Howkins	2022	v. Knowlton	1088, 1099
Howland v. Dews	261, 266	v. Rickards	482
v. Heckscher	1496	v. Turner	176, 214, 392, 523, 1153
v. Howland	1080, 1090, 1092, 1387, 1396	v. Wells	1692
v. Union Theological Sem.	1087	v. Williams	2031
Howley v. Knight	539, 842	v. Wynne	2028
Howman v. Corie	862	Hughes's Appeal	1500, 1851
Howorth v. Dewell	1126	Huguenin v. Baseley	47, 48
Howse v. Chapman	811, 1071, 1075	Huison v. Pickett	1107
v. Webster	1755	Hulett v. Hulett	1517
Hoxie v. Hoxie	1088	Huling v. Fenner	1116, 1125
Hoxton v. Archer	1217	Hull v. Hull	1693
Hoye v. Brewer	1693	v. Thayer	292
Hoyes v. Kindersley	759	Hull's Estate, In re	1156
Hoyle v. Jones	1094	Hulme v. Heygate	212
Hoyt v. Parks	750, 759	v. Tenant	61
v. White	846	Humberston v. Chase	1373
Hubbard v. Alexander	1289, 1290, 1291	Humberstone v. Stanton	1219, 1220
v. Bagshaw	736	Humble v. Bill	933
v. Barcas	410	v. Humble	1187
v. Hinckley	1664	v. Langston	1751
v. Hubbard	117, 118, 120, 1364	v. Shore	1460
v. Loyd	1091, 1399	Hume v. Edwards	1161, 1367, 1540, 1543, 1545
v. Marsh	1946	v. Richardson	1394, 1812
v. Smith	576	v. Rundell	561
v. Wood	763	Humes v. M'Farlane	6
v. Young	1163	v. Wood	1359, 1717, 1718
Hubbell v. Bissell	346	Humfrey v. Humfrey	1211
v. Hubbell	1693, 1705, 1718	Humphrey v. Bullen	410, 412, 696, 872, 1489
Hubbert v. Borden	1498	v. Humphrey	1193
Hubble v. Fogartie	257, 266	v. Tayleur	1216
Hubgh v. New Orleans &c. R. R. Co.	796	Humphrey's Estate	347
Huble v. Clark	380	Humphreys v. Howes	1219
Huckabee v. Swoope	1258	v. Humphreys	309, 405, 1162, 1324
Huckvale, In the Goods of	79	v. Ingledon	302, 308, 405, 1911
Hudleston v. Gouldsbury	1192	v. Taylor	143
Hudnal v. Wilder	754	Humphries v. Humphries	1323
Hudson v. Bryant	1081, 1085	Humes v. Wood	1169
v. Cook	659	Hunn v. Norton	2036
v. Hudson	474, 876, 877, 911, 950, 951, 1314, 1498, 1836, 2029	Hunt, In the Goods of	224
v. Hulbert	1803	v. Bass	938
v. Parker	88, 91		
v. Reeve	1379, 1380		
v. Wadsworth	1396		
Hudson's Trusts, In re	1256		

Hunt v. Berkley	1470,	1471	Hutchins, Matter of		21
v. Booth		750	Hutchins v. Adams		631
v. Burton		537	v. Baldwin		951
v. Dorsett		1084	v. Cochrane		88
v. Hamilton		533	v. Colby		846
v. Hort		1199	v. Foy		1254
v. Hunt 80, 105, 188, 689, 774,		817,	v. Glover		581
		1086	v. State Bank 293, 304, 362, 363,		1663
v. Johnson	755,	1088	365, 432, 629, 812, 935,		856
v. Kearney		956	v. Smith		1217
v. Lowell Gas Light Co.		360	Hutchinson, In re		221, 1438
v. Mootrie		89	v. Barron		1887
v. Scott	1163,	1177	v. Bobo		2041
v. Stevens 305, 614, 1888, 1891, 1892		1249,	v. Freeman		464, 465
Hunter, Ex parte		1804	v. Lambert		644
v. Baxter		1515	v. Savage		1876
v. Bryson 226, 242, 252, 382, 1515		1076	v. Sturges		1217
v. Bullock		983	Hutchinson's Appeal		1535
v. Byrn		1884	Hutchison v. Newark		290
v. Glenn		1376,	Huthwaite v. Phaire		318
v. Green		871	Hutton, In the Goods of		758
v. Hallett		287	v. Duey		2050
v. Hunter		1226,	v. Rossiter		1204
v. Judd		932	v. Simpson		796
v. Lawrence		2031	Hyatt v. Adams		1153
v. Nockolds		692	v. Pugsley		1441
v. Rice		1234	Hyde v. Baldwin		1852
Hunter's Trusts, In re		754	v. Haywood		16, 140, 149, 152
Hunters v. Waite		1690	v. Hyde		2013
Hunting v. Sheldrake		1967	v. Leavitt		149
Huntingdon v. Spears		1883	v. Mason		1303
Huntington v. Brinkerhoff		775,	v. Neate		1723
v. Gilmore		71	v. Skinner		1724, 1749
v. Huntington		873	v. Windsor, Dean of		6, 221
Huntley v. Griffith		873	Hyer v. Shobe		137, 165, 380
v. Moore		818	Hylton v. Hylton		366
v. Roper		1735	Hyman v. Gaskins		1887
Huntly v. Russell		1032	v. Gray		1811
Hupworth v. Heslop		1224	Hynes v. Redington		
Hurd v. Hurd		1178		I	
Hurdle v. Outlaw		540, 549			
Hurlburt v. Wheeler		86, 329			
Hurrill, In the Goods of		1211			
Hurry v. Hurry		1086			
v. Morgan		661	Ibbetson, In the Goods of		144
Hurst v. Beach 777, 1290, 1294, 1302		884	v. Beckwith		1088
Hurt v. Fisher		988	v. Elam		1697
Husband v. Pollard		108	v. Ibbetson		658
Huse v. Brown		658	Ibbitson's Estate, In re		837, 1395
Huskisson v. Bridge		1804	Ibbotson v. Elam		1843
v. Lefevre		1102, 1103	Iddings v. Bruen		359, 1199
Huson v. Wallace		238, 575	v. Iddings		1267
Hussey v. Berkley		1102	Ida v. Ide		147, 379
v. Coffin		1102	Idle v. Bowen		705
v. Dillon		1983	Idol v. Jones		1980
v. White		756	Iggulden v. Terson		1815
Huston v. Cantril		938	Ihmssen's Appeal		872, 1874
v. Cassidy		1387, 1424, 1425	Ikelheimer v. Chapman		149, 153, 199
Huston's Appeal		1263, 1392	Ilchester, Lord, Ex parte		1698, 1700
Hutcheon v. Mannington		534	Ilchester v. Lord Carnarvon		797
Hutcherson v. Pigg		363	Illinois Central Railroad v. Bannon		88
Hutcheson, In the Goods of		1810	Nott v. Gange		1869
v. Hammond 1206, 1279, 1401,		1092	Nlaley v. Nlaley		1707
v. Jones			Inchiquin v. French		768, 1429
			Incedon v. Northcote		

Incorporated Church Building Society v. Coles	1072	Ive v. King	1211, 1219, 1260, 1463
Indianapolis v. Huffer	346	Iven v. Elwes	1012
v. Grand Master	1070, 1076	Ives v. Allen	363
Ingalls v. Herrick	755	v. Ashley	650, 938
Ingerly v. Hyde	1726	v. Dodgson	1199
Ingersol v. Sawyer	1682	v. Harris	185
Ingham v. White	758	v. Ives	185
v. Wyatt	113	v. Sammes	1759
Ingle v. Jones	961	v. Sumner	2029
v. Partridge	1808, 1822, 2045	Ivey v. Coleman	1805, 1846
v. Richards	293, 1314, 2024	Iverson v. Gassiot	1183
Ingle's Trusts, In re	1154	Ivy v. Rogers	2029
Ingleby v. Dobson	1063	Izard v. Izard	756, 1097
Inglefield v. Cogan	185	v. Middleton	11
Inglehart v. Kirwan	1084	Izod v. Lamb	749
Ingles's Appeal	969	Izon v. Butler	1205, 1373, 1632
Inglesant v. Inglesant	88	Izord v. Izord	1116
Ingis v. Sailor's Snug Harbor	1068, 1076		J.
Ingoldby v. Ingoldby	99		
Ingraham v. Hart	371, 1083	J., M. & L. R. R. Co. v. Hendricks	797
v. Postell	1424	Jack v. Featherstone	1081
Ingram v. Girard	1090	v. McKee	1769
v. Porter	106	v. Shoenberger	206, 216
v. Smith	1108	Jackman, Matter of	47
v. Strong	169, 189	In re	51
v. Soutten	1261	Jackman's Will, In re	47
Innes v. Johnson	1323	Jacks v. Henderson	74, 104, 106, 192
v. Johnston	1160, 1168	Jackson v. Adams	12
v. Mitchell	1367	v. Betts	137, 187, 347, 380
v. Sayer	1153, 1167	v. Blanshan	1086
Iunis v. Campbell	318	v. Bowley	1679, 1972
v. Johnson	1088	v. Bridge	814
Ion v. Ashton	1061	v. Brown	156
Ipswich, Bailiffs of, v. Martin	1012, 1753	v. Bull	1088, 1267
Ipswich Manufacturing Co. v. Story	1310	v. Burtis	656
Irby v. Irby	1918, 2041	v. Calvert	1112
v. McCrea	2029	v. Chase	1810
Iredale v. Ford	427	v. Christman	92, 93, 102
Iredell v. Iredell	1091	v. Churchill	1445
Ireland v. Champneys	897	v. Coggin	1093
v. Foust	1459, 1461	v. Coleman	1267
Iremonger v. Newsam	789	v. Dover	1248
Ireton's case	905, 1534	v. Durland	87
Irish v. Smith	187, 346, 359, 360	v. Ferris	954
Irons v. Irons	1876	v. Forbes	1640
v. Smallpiece	772, 774	v. Given	655
Irvin v. Ironmonger	1390, 1693	v. Hasbrouck	380
Irvine v. Backus	534	v. Holloway	140, 144, 145, 147, 162, 205
v. Sullivan	1476	v. Hover	1081, 1153
Irving, In the Goods of	547	v. Hurlock	197, 206, 212
v. De Kay	2038	v. Jackson	51, 74, 90, 91, 93, 94, 104, 105, 198, 380, 545, 652, 1225, 1291, 1462, 1498, 1500, 1855
v. McLean	1515	v. Jansen	663
v. Peters	1963	v. Jeffries	293, 461
Irwin v. Scriber	550	v. Johnson	362
v. Sterling	2012	v. Kelly	1458
Irwin's Appeal	1820	v. King	21
Isaacson v. Harwood	1020	v. Kniffen	360
Isenhart v. Brown	1364, 1423, 1427, 2035	v. La Grange	101, 103, 347, 352, 549
Isham v. Gibbons	342, 438	v. Luquero	352, 1078
Isherwood v. Cheetham	371		
Ison v. Ison	1502, 1504		
Israell v. Rodon	196, 200		
Isted v. Stanley	255, 310		
Ithell v. Beane	937		

<b>Jackson v. Lyon</b>	1975	<b>James v. Hackley</b>	1894
v. Malin	144, 569	v. James	1458, 1459
v. Matsdorf	1502	v. Johnson	1871
v. N. Y. Central R. R. Co.	360	v. Marvin	148, 179, 181
v. Noble	1269	v. Mason	1303
v. O'Donaghy	763	v. Portman	713
v. Parks	851	v. Semmens	1290, 1291, 1294
v. Paulet	247	v. Smith	1098, 1100, 1104
v. Petrie	2022	v. Lord Wynford	1251
v. Phillips	1055, 1057, 1068, 1069, 1072, 1076, 1077	<b>Jameson v. Cooke</b>	74
v. Potter	205, 206	v. Martin	1975
v. Prudhome	1508	v. Shelby	1847
v. Rayner	1777	v. Young	1895
v. Roberts	1216, 1218, 1461, 1469	<b>Jamieson v. Trevelyan</b>	1332
v. Robins	1267	<b>Jamison v. Jamison</b>	40
v. Robinson	946, 1178, 1187, 1803, 1892	v. Lindsay	1895
v. Russell	379, 380	v. May	748
v. Schaubert	201	<b>Janney v. Sprigg</b>	1086
v. Shaffer	946	<b>Jansen v. Jansen</b>	187, 212, 217
v. Sill	1153, 1200	<b>Janson v. Bury</b>	422, 1513
v. Sublett	1244	<b>January v. Poyntz</b>	1844
v. Thompson	352, 549	<b>Jarman v. Woollaton</b>	749
v. Tierman	1929	<b>Jarnagin v. Conway</b>	1088, 1459
v. Vandalisen	938	<b>Jarvis v. Brooks</b>	666, 1743
v. Vandersprengle	1187	v. Buttrick	1153
v. Van Deusen	21, 352	v. Pond	1211, 1219
v. Vandusen	22, 75, 77, 94	v. Quigley	1108
v. Varick	6	v. Rogers	1728, 1876
v. Vickary	346	<b>Jaudon v. Nat. Bank</b>	937
v. Whitehead	277, 281	<b>Jauncey v. Sealey</b>	361, 433
v. Woods	87	v. Thorne	37, 87, 88, 90, 101, 102, 103, 346, 347, 352
v. Wooley	1949	<b>Jauncy v. Atty. Gen.</b>	1082
v. Woolley	2034, 2038	<b>Jeacock v. Falkener</b>	1298
<b>Jackson's Will, In re</b>	47	<b>Jeale v. Titckener</b>	1254
<b>Jacob v. Allen</b>	591	<b>Jebb v. Tugwell</b>	1163, 1177
<b>Jacob's Will, In re</b>	1399	<b>Jee v. Audley</b>	1088
<b>Jacobs v. Amyatt</b>	1108	<b>Jefferies v. Small</b>	651
v. Bradley	1153, 1288, 1462	<b>Jefferies v. Dee</b>	1962
v. Jacobs	1108	v. Mitchell	1153
v. Miniconi	892	<b>Jeffers v. Radcliffe</b>	562, 1887
<b>Jacobson v. Le Grange</b>	1769	<b>Jefferson v. Warrington</b>	1867
<b>Jacobus v. Jacobus</b>	2038	<b>Jeffersonville R. R. Co. v. Swayne</b>	430
<b>Jacomb v. Harwood</b>	428, 474, 946, 950, 1836	<b>Jeffery v. Jeffery</b>	1249, 1263
<b>Jacot v. Emmett</b>	1844, 1847	v. De Vitre	1126
<b>Jacques v. Chambers</b>	1159, 1440, 1764	<b>Jefford v. Ringold</b>	881, 1872
<b>Jacquet v. Jacquet</b>	2031	<b>Jeffreson v. Morton</b>	898, 1000, 1686, 1990
<b>Jaggard v. Jaggard</b>	1097	<b>Jeffrey v. Honeywood</b>	1094
<b>Jainson's Appeal</b>	1085	<b>Jeffreys v. Jeffreys</b>	1164
<b>James, In the Goods of</b>	130, 144	<b>Jeffries v. Alexander</b>	1069
Re	135	v. Lawson	1820
Ex parte	1843	v. Mitchell	1199, 1299
v. Adams	448, 550	<b>Jeffs v. Woods</b>	1297, 1303, 1304
v. Allen	1076, 1077	<b>Jekyll v. Jekyll</b>	85
v. Baker	1260	<b>Jenckes v. Probate Court</b>	23, 50
v. Chew	549	<b>Jenings v. Bailly</b>	1193
v. Christy	793	<b>Jenison v. Lord Lexington</b>	683
v. Cohen	157, 180	<b>Jenkins, In the Goods of</b>	580
v. Dean	678, 1329, 1330, 1656, 1674	In re	867
v. Dixon	531	v. Briant	1018, 2033
v. Frearson	1831	v. Flinn	749
v. Gammon	1163	v. Freyer	650, 1090
		v. Gaisford	76
		v. Gething	746
		v. Gower	1119, 1124, 1462

Jenkins v. Hall	1093	Johnson, In the Goods of	117, 246, 249, 330, 445
v. Hanahan	1161	v. Ames	1675, 1946
v. Herries	1088	v. Antrobus	1261, 1263
v. Hughes	1081, 1106	v. Arnold	658
v. Jenkins	1263, 2032	v. Baker	971, 1224
v. Maxwell	185	v. Ball	101
v. Mitchell	1499	v. Bartlett	687
v. Parkinson	895, 2021	v. Beardalee	1803, 1882, 1947
v. Plombe	877, 964, 1668, 1800, 1817	v. Belden	1502
v. Plume	1670	v. Blackman	938
v. Powell	1332	v. Blane	22
v. Stouffer	655	v. Bowden	951
Jenkinson, In re	1588	v. Brailsford	137, 138, 150
v. Harcourt	1697	v. Bridgewater Iron Co.	835, 836, 1394
Jenks v. Holford	1543	v. Burnett	658
Jenkyn v. Vaughan	753, 754, 756	v. Chester	590
Jenner v. Morgan	824	v. Child	1695, 1720
Jenness v. Jenness	1522	v. Clarkson	97, 100
Jenney v. Jenney	786	v. Corbett	763, 991, 1011, 1036, 1704, 1827, 1862
Jennings v. Bowder	1946	v. Corpenning	291, 575
v. Davis	758, 1796	v. Cope	1263
v. Gower	252	v. Copland	1523
v. Looks	1253	v. De la Creuse	1400
v. Moses	577	v. Duncan	257
v. Newman	1112, 1124, 1771, 1774, 1938	v. Durant	380
v. Rigby	1003	v. Farrell	1712, 1717
v. Smith	1446	v. Fuquay	533, 1796, 1798
v. Weeks	1806	v. Gaines	1937
Jennison v. Hapgood	362, 938, 969, 1515, 1518, 1519, 1664, 1788, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1861, 1863, 2060	v. Gaither	263
v. Lord Lexington	819	v. Gallagher	61, 1686
Jenny v. Andrews	1686	v. Glasscock	120
Jepson v. Key	221	v. Hammersley	1910
Jernegan v. Glass	2023	v. Hedrick	1846
Jerningham v. Glass	2023	v. Hoyle	1502
v. Herbert	786	v. Hubbell	124
Jerram, In the Goods of	85, 86	v. Johnson	87, 866, 936, 1088, 1093, 1163, 1177, 1204, 1221, 1458, 1459, 1482, 1820, 1833, 1901, 1933
Jervoise v. Duke of Northumberland	561	v. Johnstone	1120, 1132
v. Jervoise	765	v. Kay	1843
Jesse v. Bennett	2021	v. Le Garde	1763
v. Parker	94	v. Ley	289
Jeason v. Essington	1546	v. Longmire	1070
v. Jesson	1300	v. Lyford	360
v. Wright	1079, 1080, 1081, 1084, 1085, 1108	v. Maples	1809
Jeasopp v. Watson	665, 1508	v. Mehaffey	730
Jett v. Bernard	1359, 1367	v. Millsopp	1694
Jevens v. Harridge	1012, 1753	v. Miller	1849
Jewett v. Keenholts	710	v. Moore	1163
v. Smith	631, 635, 2001	v. Newton	1816, 1818
Jewitt v. Lawrence	1282	v. Oxenden	2062
Jickling v. Bircham	976, 978	v. Prendergast	1844
Jinkins v. Sapp	582	v. Routh	1392
Jobson v. Forster	1896	v. Sharp	53
Jochumsen v. Suffolk Savings Bank	409, 549, 563, 586, 587	v. Simcock	1085
v. Willard	452	v. Smith	780, 781
Jodell v. Jodell	832	v. Swann	1068, 1071
Jodrell v. Jodrell	762	v. Telford	1443, 1861
John v. Bradbury	481	v. Thompson	951
Johns v. Doe	6	v. Valentine	1091
v. Johns	629	v. Warwick	303, 304

Johnson v. Webster	688	Jones v. Jones	45, 46, 229, 327, 461, 534,
v. Wells	199, 200		544, 549, 588, 931, 1081, 1093,
v. Wiseman	739		1094, 1248, 1263, 1273, 1441,
v. Woods	661, 662, 663		1442, 1876, 1917
v. Yancey	104	v. Larrabee	87
Johnson's Appeal	302, 529	v. Lewis	1668, 1808
Will, In re	157, 360, 379,	v. McKee	552
	380	v. Mackilwain	1229, 1232, 1234
Johnston, In the Goods of	430	v. Mason	1332, 1335
v. Ashton	2044	v. Mitchell	1458
v. Chesson	1486	v. Moore	1803, 1881
v. Humphries	1880	v. Morgan	753
v. Johnston	74, 193, 197	v. Morrall	1844
v. Lewis	961	v. Mossop	1878
v. Swann	1060, 1061	v. Murphy	157, 162, 165, 184, 380
v. Todd	2038, 2041	v. Newman	1199
Johnstone v. Beattie	1519, 1523	v. Nicholay	105, 106
v. Hamilton	1475, 1478	v. Ogle	841
v. Johnstone	188	v. Oliver	1120
v. Lord Harrowby	1290, 1295,	v. Perry	1459
	1651	v. Powell	1015, 1445, 1449, 1859
Joiner v. Joiner	163, 185	v. Price	955, 1226
Joint Stock Discount Co. v. Brown	2017	v. Richardson	529, 871, 974, 1931
Jolliffe, Ex parte	551, 591	v. Roberts	1961
Jolly's Will	77	v. Roe	416
Jones, In the Goods of	79, 80, 242, 447,	v. Sefton	1178, 1182
	532	v. Selby	776, 777, 781
In re	88, 1325, 1901	v. Shewmaker	212
v. Alephsin	2022	v. Sothoron	1247
v. Anderson	534	v. Southall	1160, 1323
v. Arterburn	346	v. Strafford, Lord	485
v. Basset	487	v. Tanner	1933
v. Beytagh	440, 441, 464	v. Tebbetts	87
v. Brain	1917	v. Torin	1116
v. Brodie	1880	v. Tuck	92
v. Bromley	1273	v. Turberville	2029
v. Brown	776, 781	v. Waite	1265
v. Bruce	1710	v. Waller	590
v. Carter	1731	v. Ward	1423, 1806, 1844
v. Cherney	945	v. Warren	849, 872
v. Cheveling	1289, 1293	v. Westcomb	1268
v. Colbeck	1087, 1088, 1091,	v. Wilkinson	956, 1935
	1124	v. Williams	1069, 1071, 1669, 1895
v. Davids	1013	v. Yarnold	408
v. Davies	640, 642	Jones, Appellant	534, 655, 752, 1080,
v. Deyer	779, 1801, 2039		1429, 1827, 1828, 1833
v. Doe	1084, 1088	Jones's case	112
v. Dyer	2035	Trusts, In re	1853
v. Emery	1497	Jopp v. Wood	1245, 1248, 1257, 1263,
v. Flint	709		1517, 1519, 1520, 1521, 1643
v. Foxall	1432, 1848, 1851	Jordan, In the Goods of	227
v. Frost	45, 500	v. Adams	1081
v. Gerock	1515, 1664	v. Ball	426
v. Goodchild	433	v. Clark	1429
v. Goodrich	111, 115, 352, 498,	v. Cummings	846
	502, 584	v. Fawcett	1956
v. Hall	1462	v. Fortescue	107, 1201
v. Harry	1959	v. Holkham	1276
v. Hartley	148, 204, 206,	v. Hunt	1844
	211	v. Jordan	749
v. Hobson	534	v. Lowe	1111
v. Howells	309, 405, 614	v. Polk	520
v. Hull	1217	v. Thornton	1376, 1377
v. Irving	534	Jorden v. Jorden	97
v. Jenkins	1774	Joseph, In the Goods of	517



Joseph v. Mott	1035	Kean's Will	204
Joseph's Will, In re	1902	Keane, In the Goods of	445
Joseph & Webster, In re	1785	v. Dee	632
Joslin v. Brewet	1479	v. Roberts	937
Jossanne v. Abbott	1911	Kearney v. Maccomb	1909
Josselin v. Josselin	822	v. Sascor	1992
Josselyn v. Josselyn	1399, 1410	v. Whitaker	442
Jonett, In the Goods of	507	Kearns v. Kearns	380
Jourdan v. Green	1108	Kearsley v. Oxley	1755, 1838
Joy v. Campbell	1820, 1826, 1834	v. Woodcock	1266
Joys, In the Goods of	178	Keates v. Burton	287
Joyner v. Conyers	935	Keating v. Brooks	80
Joynes v. Watt	486	v. Keating	939
Jubber v. Jubber	1126, 1276, 1287	v. Smith	6, 650
Judd v. Judd	1247	Keaton v. Campbell	1663
v. Pratt	1153	Kebble, Ex parte	1411
Judge of Madison County Court v.		Keble v. Keble	1943, 1945
Looney	534	Kechele's case	449
Judge of Probate v. Adams	529, 530, 533,	Kee v. Kee	1800, 1806
	534, 540, 2057	v. Vasser	757
v. Briggs	534	Keefer v. Mason	361
v. Brooks	2023	v. Schwartz	654
v. Chamberlain	410, 412	Keehn v. Fries	1431
v. Claggett	470, 532	Keeler v. Keeler	2035
v. Emery	534	Keeling v. Brown	1717
v. Heydock	534	Keen's Executor's case	1748
v. Kimball	540, 2057	Keene, In the Goods of	521
v. Lane	530, 534, 540,	v. La Farge	1883
	549, 1953	v. Riley	1690
v. Locke	534	Keeney v. Globe Mill Co.	530
v. Ordway	539	v. Whitmarsh	86
v. Stone	21	Keep's Will, In re	1467
v. Tillotson	534	Keeton, In the Goods of	327
Judson v. Connolly	1679	Keigwin v. Keigwin	88
v. Gibbons	282, 284, 1867	Kellway v. Kellway	1506, 1507
v. Lake	54, 549, 550	Keith v. Lothrop	360
Judy v. Kelley	1929	v. Parry	1085, 1088
v. Williams	1239	Kell v. Charmer	1155
Juler v. Juler	1476	Kellaway v. Johnson	2015
Julian v. Reynolds	1843	Kellar v. Beeber	650
Julke v. Adam	41	v. Beelor	847, 1658
Jull v. Jacobs	1239	Keller v. Bevoir	56
Jury v. Woodhouse	1657	Keller's Appeal	1806
Justices &c. v. Lee	658	Kellett v. Kellett	185, 1078, 1081, 1288
v. Sloan	534, 1974, 1975	v. Rathbun	1819, 1847
v. Wooton	534	Kellick, In the Goods of	93
Juxon v. Byron	343	Kellogg v. Johnson	550
		v. Mix	1085
K.		v. Wilcox	1975, 1979
Kachline v. Clark	40	Kellogg's case	1853
Kain v. Fisher	710, 712	Kellow v. Westcombe	261, 1943
Kampf v. Jones	1163	Kelley v. Deyo	1708
Kane v. Astor	185, 1080, 1084	v. Kelley	1078
v. Gatt	658, 663, 1088	v. Powlett	1181, 1185
v. Reynolds	433, 1515	Kellum, John, Will of, In the matter	343, 549
Kansas Pacific Ry. Co. v. Cutter	797	Kelly v. Austin	728
Karker's Appeal	1261	v. Drew	318
Karr v. Karr	1844, 1849, 1851	v. Hammond	1101
Karrick v. Pratt	362	v. Hooper	1946
Karver v. James	1882	v. Kelly	915
Kaye, In re	66	v. McGuire	1511
Kayser v. Disher	1931	v. Riley	800, 894
Kean v. Roe	6, 1513	v. Theules	45
v. Welch	1498	v. Thompson	1887

Kelsey v. Deyo	1931	Kerr v. Bosler	1425, 1428, 1431
v. Western	1424, 1693, 1707, 1931	v. Clinton	167
Kelso v. Dickey	1086, 1247	v. Kerr	575
Kelsock v. Nicholson	947, 948	v. Kirkpatrick	1820
Kemble v. Church	22	v. Laird	1847
Kemp v. Andrews	843, 1741, 1865	v. The Middlesex Hospital	1194, 1195
v. Burn	2035	v. Moon	361, 362, 366, 1515
v. Kelsey	1544	v. Waters	946, 1820
Kemp v. Kemp	1422	v. Wimer	1004
v. M'Pherson	6	Kerrich v. Bransby	549, 557
v. Waddingham	1003	Kerrison's Trusts, In re	1414
v. Westbrook	886	Kerry v. Derrick	820
Kempe v. Lawrence	486	Kersey v. Bailey	763
Kemper v. Kemper	780	Kesler v. Roseman	1887
Kemps v. Kelsey	1528	Kessinger v. Kessinger	47
Kempsey v. McGinnias	21, 342, 346, 360	Ket v. Life	593
Kempton v. Cross	1889, 1892	Ketchum v. Ketchum	1895, 1896
v. Swift	473	Kevern v. Williams	1091, 1226
Kenan v. Du Bignon	1887	Kevil v. Kevil	51
v. Hall	1851	Kevill v. Davies	828
Kendal v. Micfield	683	v. Kevill	48, 360
Kendall, Ex parte	1745, 1747	Key v. Goodwin	894
Re	1084	v. Griffin	1450
v. Bates	1801	v. Jordan	117
v. Granger	1076, 1077	v. Key	1080
v. Kendall	214, 1178, 1183, 1189	Keyzey's case	1700
v. Lee	539	Kibler v. Whiteman	1224, 1230
v. New England Carpet Co.	1858	Kidd v. North	170, 1123, 1281
v. Russell	1403	v. Rawlinson	755
Kendall's Trust, In re	1185	Kidney v. Coussmaker	754, 756, 1443
Kendar v. Milward	2052	Kidwell v. Brummagim	654
Keniston v. Little	1896, 1897	Kilburn v. Bennett	1518, 1519
Kennard v. Kennard	1176	Kilby v. Stanton	1911
Kenebel v. Scrafton	198	Kildare v. Hopson	1844
Kennedy v. Kennedy	362, 1898	Kileher, In the Goods of	94
v. Lord Cassilis	573	Killcrease v. Killcrease	237, 846
v. Mills	1445	Killebrew v. Murphy	302
v. Sedgwick	1086, 1263	Killegrew v. Killegrew	1913
v. Stainsby	1479	Killican v. Parker	315
v. Stallworth	881, 1872	Killigrew v. Killigrew	235
Kennedy's Appeal	1803, 1859	Kilpatrick v. Bush	362
Kennell v. Abbot	172, 1155, 1458, 1459	Kilvington v. Gray	1392
Kennerly v. Wilson	791, 793	v. Stevenson	1876
Kenney v. Public Administrator	774	Kimball v. Crocker	1232, 1248
Kenny v. Jackson	975, 977	v. Fiske	292, 549
v. Udall	1414	v. Kimball	1901
Kenrick v. Bransby	45	v. Story	1118, 1206, 1207, 1221
v. Burgess	258, 407	v. Sumner	534, 817
Kensington v. Dolland	750	Kimberley v. Tew	1240, 1245, 1259, 1273, 1402
Kent v. Barker	1099	Kimbrough v. Mitchell	793
v. Dunham	1405, 1413, 1425, 1426, 1428, 1433, 1931, 2029	Kimpton, In the Goods of	80
v. Mahaffey	127	Kinard v. Young	265, 267, 269
v. Pickering	1049, 1923, 1924	Kincade v. Conley	1827
v. Riley	753	Kincaid, In re	1413, 1414
v. Thomas	547	Kinderley v. Jervis	639, 1692
Kenworthy v. Ward	1462, 1464	Kindig v. Smith	1086
v. Williams	37, 346, 360	Kindleside v. Cleaver	412, 474, 475
Kenyon v. Stewart	549	v. Harrison	22, 39, 46, 50
Keogh v. Barrington	115	King, The, v. St. Dunstan	739
Ker v. Lord Dungannon	1250	King, In the Goods of	135
v. Snead	1851	v. Anderson	820
Kerlin v. Bull	1230	v. Beeler	1941
Kermode v. McDonald	185, 1162, 1320	v. Bennett	1096

King v. Bullock	549, 563	Kirby v. Clark	877
v. Clarke	1929	v. Potter	1160, 1162, 1165
v. Cleaveland	1133, 1211, 1219	v. Quinn	877
v. Cullen	1257	v. Turner	533, 1796
v. Death	486	Kircudbright v. Kircudbright	180, 1500, 1501, 1503
v. Denison	1478, 1030	Kirk v. Carr	103
v. Dennison	1088	v. Eddowes	1153, 1333, 1335, 1336
v. Devon	539	v. The State	67
v. Foxwell	1519, 1520	v. Webb	2052
v. Gordon	441	Kirkbank v. Hudson	1068
v. Green	915, 917	Kirke v. Kirke	152, 1711
v. Isaacson	1239	Kirkland v. Narramore	1285, 1288
v. Jones	803, 807	v. Whatley	1519, 1522, 1523
v. King	499, 1020, 1225, 1806, 1808	Kirkman v. Booth	1792, 1856
v. Lyman	257	v. Kirkman	1535
v. Malcott	1344	v. Miles	658
v. Mitchell	1126	Kirkman's Trusts, In re	1211
v. Morrison	981, 1801	Kirkpatrick, In re	142, 143
v. Mosely	1946	Matter of	2010
v. Paddock	318	v. Capel	1130
v. Parker	1076	v. Kirkpatrick	1085, 1161
v. Peck	1106, 1108	v. Rogers	1101, 1693, 1707
v. Smith	1715	v. Taylor	880, 1929
v. Strong	1458, 2038	Kirkpatrick's, Sophia, Will, In re	77
v. Talbert	461	Kirksey v. Kirksey	752
v. Talbot	1425, 1809	Kirkwood v. Gordon	39, 40
v. Taylor	1260	Kirtlan, Estate of	453
v. Thom	880, 1781, 1874	Kiser v. Kiser	1108
v. Tootel	1296	Kitson v. Robins	1532
v. Withers	887, 1253	Kittera's Estate	991
v. Woodhull	663, 1458, 1459	Kittredge v. Folsom	292, 302, 571, 575, 587, 588, 590
v. Worsley	1498	v. Woods	709, 712, 731, 734
v. Wright	1200	Kiver v. Oldfield	185, 1088
King's College Hospital v. Wheildon	1153	Kleberg v. Bonds	1819
King's Estate	1498, 1502	Klepner v. Laverty	1112
Mortgage, In re	1193	Kline v. Baker	371, 1088
Kingdon v. Bridges	759	v. Guthart	877, 1869, 1870, 1871
v. Nottle	803, 805, 807	v. Moulton	820
Kingham v. Lee	1837	Kling v. Hummer	951
Kingman v. Kingman	763	Knaggs v. Mastin	749
Kings v. Hilton	1837	Knapp v. Abell	371, 1088
Kingsbury v. Collins	711	v. Hanford	1931
v. Scovill	1483, 1490	v. Lee	1876
v. Wilmarth	763	v. M'Bride	1658
Kingsbury's Appeal	1502	v. Noyes	1279
Kingsland v. Rapelye	1112	v. Williams	1061
Kingsley's Trusts, In re	1413	v. Windsor	1510
Kingsmonth v. Brigham	1393, 1394, 1395	Knatchbull v. Fearnhead	1351
Kinnard v. Kinnard	1389	Knecht's Appeal	1359
v. Williams	1444	Knevert v. Poole	716
Kinne v. Johnson	40	Knevit v. Poole	717
v. Kinne	12, 40, 346, 360	Knight, In the Goods of	104
Kinnebrew v. Kinnebrew	292	v. Boughton	108, 832
Kinney v. Ensign	1310	v. Brawner	2028
Kinsell v. Billings	729	v. Broughton	108
Kinsey v. Heyward	488, 1882, 1883, 1885, 1951	v. Cameron	1232, 1280
v. Lardner	1241	v. Cole	644
v. Rhem	1153	v. Cook	158, 380
Kip v. Van Cortland	216	v. Davis	1763
Kipp v. Hanna	754	v. Duplessis	498, 500
Kipping v. Ash	338	v. Ellis	678, 1111
Kirby, In re	82	v. Godbolt	1049
v. Barton	1925	v. Gould	913, 1218, 1470, 1472

<b>Knight v. Knight</b>	108, 1108, 1190, 1238,	<b>Lake v. Currie</b>	1153
	1430, 1466	<b>v. Gibson</b>	652
<b>v. Loomis</b>	242, 262, 302, 461, 654	<b>v. Park</b>	1844
	1796, 1844	<b>Laker v. Horden</b>	1099
<b>v. Lord Plymouth</b>	1818	<b>Lakin v. Massie</b>	1896
<b>v. Martin</b>	2035	<b>Lamb, In the Goods of</b>	70
<b>v. Mory</b>	940	<b>v. Carroll</b>	1498
<b>v. Oliver</b>	1498, 1502	<b>v. Girtman</b>	51, 91, 92, 93
<b>v. Poole</b>	1465	<b>v. Lamb 1153, 1233, 1391, 1425, 1844</b>	
<b>v. Robinson</b>	1193	<b>Lambarde v. Older</b>	1876
<b>v. Wall</b>	1091	<b>Lambe v. Eames</b>	1127
<b>v. Walsh</b>	1844	<b>Lambell v. Lambell</b>	157, 417
<b>Knight's Trusts, Re</b>	1901	<b>Lambert, In the Goods of</b>	141
<b>Knights v. Quarles</b>	799, 804	<b>v. Austin</b>	930
<b>Kniveton v. Latham</b>	1800	<b>v. Lambert</b>	1160, 1166, 1371
<b>Knocker v. Banbury</b>	654	<b>Lambirth v. Barrington</b>	895
<b>Knolle's case</b>	820	<b>Lamine v. Dorrell</b>	587
<b>Knollys v. Alcock</b>	204	<b>Lamkin v. Babb</b>	46, 69
<b>Knott v. Clements</b>	1875	<b>v. Heyer</b>	534
<b>v. Cottee</b>	108, 1432, 1815, 1849,	<b>Lampet's case</b>	1376, 1382
	1850	<b>Lamphier v. Despard</b>	1182, 1710
<b>Knox v. Bigelow</b>	1870	<b>Lamport v. Beeman</b>	1694
<b>v. Hotham</b>	1288	<b>Lampton v. Collingwood</b>	1741
<b>v. M'Call</b>	1803, 1946	<b>Lamson v. Schutt</b>	1803
<b>v. Picket</b>	1820, 2038	<b>Lancaster, In the Goods of</b>	204, 224, 227,
<b>Knox's Appeal</b>	21		389
<b>Koerber v. Sturgis</b>	1414	<b>v. Evors</b>	1014, 2020
<b>Kohler v. Knapp</b>	820, 1663	<b>v. McBryde</b>	362
<b>Kooystra v. Buyskes</b>	466, 467	<b>Lancaster Society, Ex parte</b>	994, 895
<b>Koppenhafer v. Isaacs</b>	1860	<b>Lancefield v. Allen</b>	1874
<b>Koster v. Sapte</b>	577	<b>Lancey v. Fairchild</b>	1022
<b>Kowanachi v. Askew</b>	1887	<b>Land v. Devaynez</b>	1172, 1327
<b>Kraft v. Wickey</b>	361	<b>v. Otley</b>	1081
<b>Krebs v. Krebs</b>	1498, 1502	<b>Lander v. Weston</b>	1820
<b>Kreider v. Boyer</b>	1332, 1499	<b>Landon v. Ferguson</b>	1000
<b>Krupp v. Scholl</b>	856	<b>v. Nettleship</b>	347
<b>Kunnen v. Zurline</b>	11	<b>Landrum v. Hatcher</b>	221
<b>Kuhn v. Stansfield</b>	753, 754	<b>Landry v. Delas</b>	925
<b>Kurtz v. Hibner</b>	1153	<b>Lane, In the Goods of</b>	245, 253
<b>v. Saylor</b>	375	<b>v. Coleman</b>	1853
<b>Kutter v. Smith</b>	744	<b>v. Drinkwater</b>	1866
<b>Kyle v. Barnett</b>	1849	<b>v. Goudge</b>	1231, 1234, 1241
<b>Kynaston v. Clayton</b>	1310	<b>v. Green</b>	1157
<b>v. Kynaston</b>	1710	<b>v. Lane</b>	1266, 1513
		<b>v. Lord Stanhope</b>	1079, 1088
		<b>v. Thompson</b>	302, 629, 631, 650
		<b>v. Tyler</b>	666
<b>L.</b>		<b>Laneville v. Anderson</b>	367, 371
<b>Labouchere v. Tupper</b>	1792	<b>Lang v. Lang</b>	1494
<b>Lacam v. Mertins</b>	1012	<b>v. Pettus</b>	1405
<b>Lacey v. Giboney</b>	730	<b>v. Pugh</b>	1229, 1242
<b>Lachlan v. Reynolds</b>	1085	<b>v. Warring</b>	666
<b>Lachland v. Downing</b>	1093	<b>Langdale v. Briggs</b>	221, 223, 1088, 1089,
<b>Lacon v. Mertins</b>	1763		1438
<b>Lacy v. Rhys</b>	602, 615	<b>v. Whitfield</b>	1190
<b>Ladd v. Harvey</b>	1079, 1106, 1396	<b>Langdon v. Astor</b>	6, 97, 217, 1303, 1332,
<b>v. Ladd</b>	1162		1335
<b>v. Wiggin</b>	650, 687	<b>v. Ingram</b>	1266
<b>Laffer v. Edwards</b>	1273	<b>v. Potter</b>	362, 432, 1875
<b>Lafferty v. Turley</b>	2028, 2029	<b>Langford, In the Goods of</b>	246
<b>Laffin v. Griffiths</b>	728	<b>v. Frey</b>	1943
<b>Lafont v. Ricand</b>	1844	<b>v. Gascayne</b>	1820, 1822, 1824
<b>Lainson v. Lainson</b>	1239, 1427	<b>v. Gowland</b>	1076
<b>Lake v. Cansfield</b>	390	<b>v. Mahony</b>	916
<b>v. Craddock</b>	652	<b>v. Pitt</b>	204

Langham, In re	1061	Laundy v. Williams	1388, 1396, 1427
v. Sandford	1199, 1479	Laurens v. Lucas	935
v. Sanford	1478, 1481, 1482	v. Read	1712, 1717
Langhorn, In the Goods of	163	Laurie v. Clutton	1164, 1629
Langley, In the Goods of	575	Laurin v. McColl	710
v. Baldwin	1081	Laury v. Aldred	269
v. Furlong	1017	Lavender v. Adams	111, 143
v. Harris	529	v. Blackstone	755
v. Hawke	236	Lavis v. Phillips	757
v. Lord Oxford	933	Law, Ex parte	313
Langmead v. Lewis	71	v. Campbell	440, 468
Langalov v. Langalov	1442	v. Law	2021
Langston v. Langston	569, 1082, 1084,	v. Smith	1500, 1502
1087, 1088, 1096, 1153		v. Thompson	1223, 1227
v. Ollivant	1809	Lawrence v. Beverly	688
Langton v. Higgs	1040	v. Beverleigh	847
Langworthy v. Baker	575, 586	v. Dodwell	153, 1199
v. Chadwick	1396	v. Elmendorf	362
Lank v. Kinder	946	v. Embree	1887, 1390, 1393,
Lanman v. Lord Audley	895	1424, 1427, 1430	
Lanoy v. The Duke of Athol	1693, 1697	v. Hebbard	375, 1103, 1211,
v. The Duke & Duchess of		1219	
Athol	870	v. Hodgson	894, 908
Langhior v. Buck	1112, 1211, 1269, 1463	v. Interest	1740
Lansdowne, Lord, In the Goods of	97	v. Kemp	739
Lansdowne v. Lansdowne	1433, 1434,	v. Kittredge	1515, 1664
1733		v. Lawrence	362, 1445, 1911
Lansing v. Lansing	1399, 1851	v. Mitchell	1502
Laporte v. Bishop	1431	v. Norton	102
Lapsley v. Grierson	318	v. Parsons	445
Larchin v. Buckle	1883	v. Wright	631, 635, 650
Largan v. Bowen	1915	Lawrence's case	594
Large's case	1266	Will	575
Lark v. Linstead	1372, 1396, 1796	Lawson v. Crofts	492, 493, 494, 594
Larkin v. McMullin	753	v. Hansborough	1036
v. Mann	1931	v. Hudson	1700
Larkins v. Larkins	- 143	v. Lawson	771, 772, 779, 781,
v. Paxton	1038, 2036	1530, 1870	
Larned v. Bridge	654	v. Morrison	127, 179, 181, 184
Larner v. Larner	1191, 1456	v. Powell	1894
Larpet v. Sindry	370	v. Stitch	1160, 1161
Larrabee v. Larrabee	185	Lawson's Appeal	1502
Lasbury v. Newport	1124	Lawton v. Buckingham	1974
Lascelles v. Jobber	980	v. Lawton	710, 713, 733, 735,
Lashbrook v. Cock	1463	741	
Lasher v. Lasher	1084, 1445	v. Salmon	734, 735, 743
Lashee v. Jacobs	1894	Lawyer v. Smith	103, 127, 345
Lashley v. Wiley	1874	Laxton v. Eedle	1232
Lassence v. Tierney	752, 1087, 1288	Lay, In the Goods of	118
Lasseur v. Tyrconnell	361	Laycock v. Oleson	1868, 1870, 1872
La Terriere v. Bulmer	1391, 1392	Layfield v. Layfield	268
Latham v. Attwood	711	Lazonby v. Rawson	1970, 2050
v. Latham	1085	Lea v. Hopkins	881, 899, 900, 1874
Lathrop v. Dunlop	192, 202	v. Libb	95
v. Smalley	1851	Leach, In the Goods of	101, 467
v. Wightman	650, 938	v. House	267
La Touche v. Latouche	61	v. Leach	653, 1126
Latrobe v. Tierman	948, 1820	v. Pillsbury	257, 272, 1515,
Latourette v. Williams	857	1519	
Latta v. Russ	915	v. Prebster	257, 346, 1441
Lattimer v. Hanson	1851	Leacroft v. Maynard	1295, 1651
Lattimore v. Simons	800	Leader v. Homewood	747
Laughlin v. McDonald	1974	Leah v. M'Dowall	1463
Laughton v. Atkins	127, 147, 153, 186,	Leak v. Gilchrist	1515
377, 388		v. M'Dowall	1474

Leake v. Harwood	52	Lees v. Browning	575
v. Robinson	1088, 1094, 1229,	v. Massey	1116, 1124
1232, 1235, 1247, 1250,	1458	v. Mosley	1080
Leake's Trusts, Re	1901	v. Sanderson	1823
Lear v. Leggatt	1266	v. Summerville	1052
Learned v. Corley	318	Leese, In the Goods of	163, 247, 389
Leathers v. Greenacre	68, 104, 117	Leeson, In the Goods of	439
Leavens v. Butler	951, 1081, 1084	Le Farrant v. Spencer	1185
Leavitt v. Leavitt	753	Lefevre v. Lefevre	1087, 1152, 1153,
v. Wooster	1051, 1693, 1705		1458
Leaycraft v. Simmons	93, 137, 139	Leftley v. Mills	823
Lebeau v. Trudeau	1084	Legarde, Succession of	1810
Leber v. Kauffelt	408, 631	Legare v. Ashe	157, 162, 380
Le Bret v. Papillon	1958	Leggatt v. Leggatt	428, 975
Le Breton v. Fletcher	37, 347	Leggee v. Asgill	1189, 1458
Le Breton v. Le Quesne	430, 467, 527	Legget v. Hart	221
Lechmere v. Brothridge	61, 62	Leggett v. Hunter	951
v. Earl of Carlisle	658, 661, 665,	Legh v. Holloway	1800
	688, 1015	v. Legh	1713
v. Lechmere	661	Le Grice v. Finch	1166, 1168
Leckey v. Cunningham	41, 103	Leigh v. Barry	1833
Ledgard v. Garland	384	v. Byron	1101
Ledsome v. Hickman	1219	v. Leigh	1119, 1216, 1217
Ledward v. Hassell	1268	v. Mosly	1462
Ledyard v. Johnston	2006	v. Norbury	1112, 1513
Lee, Appellant	1710	v. Savage	1153
v. Armstrong	965	v. Savidge	1088
v. Arnold	818	v. Smith	1803
v. Boak	776, 778	v. Thornton	1758
v. Book	1502	Leighton v. Leighton	978, 979, 1225
v. Brown	1409	Leiper v. Irvine	658
v. Chase	257, 259, 265, 785, 1679	v. Le Jeune	1211, 1219, 1260
v. Cooke	1720, 1724	Leland v. Brigham	1395
v. Cox & D'Aranda	1495	v. Felton	1310
v. D'Aranda	485, 1492	v. Gassett	728
v. Dill	48	v. Newton	1740
v. Egremont	1307	v. Whitaker	758
v. Flood	1356, 1747	Lemacks v. Glover	1108
v. Gardner	1953, 1985	Lemage v. Goodban	8, 162, 163, 185
v. Gause	1880	Leman v. Newnham	1700
v. Lanahan	749	Lemann v. Bonsall	121
v. Lee	30, 1124, 1413, 1768	Lemar v. Miles	730
v. Moore	293, 362	Le Mason v. Dixon	786, 791, 792, 1730
v. Pain	1156, 1216, 1219, 1290, 1291,	Lemayne v. Stanley	77
	1293, 1295, 1303	Lemun v. Fooke	1021, 1955
v. Park	1922	Lenden v. Blackmore	1513
v. Pilmy	1872	Lenderman v. Talley	847
v. Pindle	1081	Lennig's Estate	1701
v. Risdon	711	Lenoir v. Sylvester	1372
v. Stone	1467	v. Winn	1039, 1820, 1953
v. Wheeler	871	Lenox v. Lenox	1271
Leech v. Bates	88, 101	Lentz v. Hertzog	1498
v. Leech	30, 39	Leofoes v. Lewen	1546
Leech's Appeal	1425, 1428	Leonard v. Bell	1055, 1060
Leeds Banking Company, In re	1748,	v. Cameron	1893
	1792	v. Leonard	1488
Leeds, Duke of, v. Amherst	1199	v. Putnam	293, 1663, 1929
Leeds v. Freeport	1522	v. Simpson	1953, 1985, 1987
Leek v. Bennett	1396	v. Steele	1445
Leek v. Beanes	980, 985	v. Vredenburg	1777
v. Grevell	405	Lepage v. McNamara	1076, 1088
Leeming, In re	668, 1698	Lepard v. Vernon	947, 948, 1034
v. Sherrat	1106, 1217, 1229,	Lepine v. Bean	1099
	1232, 1235, 1243, 1467	v. Ferard	1106
Leeper v. Taylor	47	Lerow v. Wilmarth	753

Le Roy, Ex parte	94	Lichfield, Chancellor of, v. —	15
Le Sage v. Conssmaker	1768	Lichfield v. Baker	1163, 1177
Lesley v. Leslie	1851	Liddel v. M'Vicar	1861
Leslie v. Baillie	1516	Lidderdale v. Robinson	529
v. Leslie	1428, 1430	Lide v. Lide	46, 47
Leslie's Appeal	2060	Life Association of Scotland v. Sid-	
Lester v. Bond	2008	dall	1414, 1419
v. Lazarus	1866	Liford's case	707, 708, 730
v. Pittsford	346	Liggat v. Hart	6
Le Sure's, Sir Stephens, case	230	Light's Appeal	1851
Letchworth's Appeal	1123	Lightfoot v. Burstall	1460
Lethbridge v. Chapman	1884	v. Cole	1974
v. Thurlow	1299, 1648	Lightner v. Wike	360
Lett v. Randall	1194	Lighton, In the Goods of	246, 249
v. Randell	1491	Ligon v. Bishop	1875
Le Vasseur v. Scrutton	856	Lilford, Lord, v. Keck	221, 1720
Le Vaston v. Dickens	791	Lill v. Lill	1465
Leventhorpe v. Ashbre	677	Lillard v. Reynolds	1078, 1377
Leverett v. Armstrong	1656, 1657	Lillcott v. Compton	1181
v. Carlisle	47, 87	Lillie v. Lillie	157
v. Dismukes	418, 425, 436,	Limbery v. Mason	67, 84, 149
	450	Limbre v. Gurr	1075
Levy v. Levy	1058	Limerick, In the Goods of	97
Levy's Estate	345	Limmer v. Every	255, 473
Lewes v. Lewes	1266, 1288	Limver v. Evoie	473
Lewe's Trusts, In re	318	Lincoln v. Allen	1844
Lewin v. Lewin	1367, 1368, 1369, 1535,	v. Battelle	371
	1538	v. Pelham	1093, 1094, 1513
v. Okeley	1684	v. Windsor	1855
Lewin's Trusts, In re	108, 658, 954, 1055,	v. Wright	1828
	1163, 1399, 1416, 1420, 1820, 1822,	Lincoln's, Earl of, case	670
	1826, 1836, 1844, 1846, 1847	Lindgren v. Lindgren	1200, 1202
Lewis, In the Goods of	139, 147	Lindsay, Ex parte	106
Re	135	v. Harrison	751
v. Adam	750	v. Howerton	1860
v. Allenby	1068	v. Lindsay	234
v. Bolitho	781	v. Pleasants	663
v. Bulkeley	192	Lindu v. Monroe	1875
v. Darling	1712, 1717	Lingen v. Sowray	658
v. Duncombe	2031	Lining v. Giles	540
v. Elrod	750	Lines v. Darden	108, 1153
v. Eustler	1514	Lingan v. Carroll	1459
v. Fisher	1104	Lingdren v. Lingdren	1153
v. Johnston	1983	Linley v. Taylor	989, 1447
v. Jones	41	Linsdale v. Baloo	441
v. Lewis	19, 67, 71, 77, 86, 87, 89,	Linstead v. Green	1085
	94, 96, 103, 127, 147, 351, 375,	Linthwaite v. Galloway	463, 465
	380, 549, 1441, 1702, 1861	Lippincott v. Stokes	1865
v. Lusk	980	Lippincott v. Lippincott	655
v. Lyons	650	Lister v. Bradley	1234, 1238
v. Matthews	1285	v. Smith	106, 342
v. Morris	1513	v. Tidd	1112
v. Nagle	1701	Liston v. Jenkins	1085
v. Pead	39	Litchfield v. Cudworth	938, 1843
v. Puxley	1084	Little v. Dawson	1768
v. Reed	1820	v. Knox	529
v. Ringo	673	v. Plant	1943
v. Scofield	11	v. Walton	539
v. Smith	1376, 1445	Littlefield v. Brooks	1519
v. Soper	894	Littlehales v. Gascoyne	1821, 1844
v. Templer	1465	Littlejohns v. Household	1465
v. Thornton	1693	Littleton v. Hibbins	991, 1030
Lewis's case	192	Lively v. Harwell	179
L'Fit v. L'Batt	565	Liverpool Borough Bank v. Walker	1742,
L'Huille v. Wood	69		1745

Livesay v. Livesay	1451	Lomax v. Pendleton	1844
v. Redfern	1160, 1170	v. Spierin	1943
Livesey v. Livesey	1095, 1096	Lombard v. Boyden	1109, 1216
Livingston v. Ackreton	1768	Londesborough, Lord, v. Somerville	1653
v. Commonwealth	346	London, Bishop of, v. M'Neil	543
v. Livingston	1693	v. Webb	708
v. Murray	656	London, Mayor of, v. Russell	1291
v. Newkirk 6, 647, 1693, 1707, 1708, 1710		London University v. Yarrow	1068, 1070, 1071
Livoek, In the Goods of	130, 145	London & Westminster Loan Co. v. Drake	747
Llanwarne, In the Goods of	447	Long v. Aldred	55, 192, 207
Llewellyn's Trusts, Re	1392, 1395	v. Blackall	1136, 1141
Lloyd v. Beatniffe	2061	v. Hebb	631
v. Branton	1274, 1277	v. Hitchcock	793, 1728, 1734
v. Crispe	941	v. Kent	1449
v. Finlayson	562	v. Lahor	1211
v. Hart	667	v. Long	1429
v. Harvey	1335, 1336	v. Morrison	801, 1734
v. Lloyd 1073, 1234, 1235, 1243, 1275, 1276, 1460		v. Short	1170, 1693, 1696, 1718
v. Mason	452, 991, 1418	v. Storie	2017
v. Ogleby	893	v. Symes	276, 279, 281
v. Rambo	1082	v. Wakeling	551
v. Roberts	103	v. Watkinson	1135, 1144, 1147
v. Spillett	1273	Long's Estate	806
v. Tench 419, 423, 1505, 1510, 1513		Longbottom v. Berry	730
v. Wilkinson	675	v. Longbottom	1935
v. Williams	1418	Longchamp v. Fish	19, 351
Loane v. Casey 1042, 1044, 1048, 1050		Longdon v. Simpson	1084
Lobach's case	1931	Longley v. Hall	1853, 2060
Loddell v. Hayes	650	v. Longley	663
Loch v. Bagley	1087	Longmore v. Broom	1116
Lock v. Lake 419, 422		v. Broome	1085, 1844
v. Loggin	954	v. Elcum	1126
v. Venables	1394	Longstaff v. Rennison	105, 1062, 1068
Locke v. James	152	v. Meagoe	740
v. Lamb	1106, 1230	Longuet v. Scawen	687
Locker v. Bradley	1240, 1245	Longworth, In re	836
Lockere v. Savage	1544	Longworthy v. Baker	2029
Lockhart v. Hardy 1694, 1715		Lonsdale, Lord, v. Berchtoldt	1288
v. Northington	655, 656	Loock v. Clarkson	1364
v. Reilley 1013, 1014, 1020		Loomes v. Stotherd	989, 1042
Lockier v. Paterson	791	Loomis v. Kellogg	87, 352
v. Smith	1314	v. Loomis	192
Lockwood v. Lockwood	650	v. Newhall	1777
v. Stockholm 872, 1705, 1720		Loomis's Appeal	1367
v. Sturdevant	689	Loosemore v. Knapman	1697
Loder v. Loder	1094	Lopes v. Hartley	577
Lodge v. Hamilton	847	Lord v. Bourne	1108, 1109, 1110
v. Pritchard	1743, 2035	v. Bunn	1266
Lofing, In the Goods of	286	v. Colvin	1519
Loftus, In the Goods of	470	v. Godfrey	1163
v. Maw	126, 560	v. Lord 1087, 1272, 1445, 1446, 1762	
Loftus's case	694	v. Parker	758
Logan v. Bell	192, 202	v. Purchase	2045
v. Caldwell	648, 820	v. Sutcliffe	1292
v. Fairlie 361, 1638, 1639		v. Wightwick	658, 1392, 1712
v. Hall	752	v. Wormleighton	313, 1919, 1925
v. Moulder	803	Lorenz, Re	1910
v. Watts	549	Lorieu v. Keller	1088
Lolly v. Stocks	1289	Lorillard v. Coster	658, 663, 1090
Lomas v. Wright	1015, 1102, 1714	Lorimer, Re	1901
Lomax v. Holmden	1096	In the Goods of	286
v. Lomax	1412, 1710	v. Lorimer	759



Loring v. Blake	1250	Lowry v. Fulton	1809, 1820, 1830, 2016
v. Coolidge	1464, 1513	v. Herbert	763
v. Cunningham	660, 1657, 1763	v. Mountjoy	1374
v. Kendall	534, 540	Lowson v. Copland	1805
v. Loring	1081, 1126	Lowther v. Cavendish	1263, 1264
v. Oakley	312, 363, 378	v. Condon	1254
v. Steineman	318	Loxley v. Jackson	157
v. Sumner	97	Loy v. Duckett	413, 872
v. Thomas	1097, 1211	v. Kennedy	77, 350, 549
v. Thorndike	1109, 1514	Loyd v. Finlayson	1887, 1888
v. Woodward	1162, 1423, 1424, 1425, 1428, 1429	Lozear v. Shields	40
Lorings v. Marsh	201, 953	Lucas v. Brandeth	1119
Loscombe v. Winttingham	1072, 1076, 1439	v. Brandreth	658
Losee v. Losee	352	v. Carline	1223
Loakey v. Reid	1460	v. Doe	654
Loton v. Loton	576	v. Duffield	1084
Lott v. Meacham	461, 1372, 1376	v. Gay	435
Louch v. Peters	1647, 1648	v. Goff	121
Loud v. Lane	689	v. Jenner	1980
Lougher v. Williams	802	v. Lockhart	108
Lovat v. Lord Ranelagh	943	v. Lucas	438, 758
Love v. Gaze	1476	v. New York Central R. R. Co.	410, 1119, 1872
v. Honeybourne	1786	v. Parsons	22, 31, 39, 106, 360
v. Johnston	127, 205, 206, 211, 360	v. Seale	1911
v. L'Estrange	1229	v. Williams	1780
Loveday v. Hopkins	1083, 1109	Luce v. Dimock	216
Lovegrove, In the Goods of	11	Luch's case	986, 1547
v. Bethel	387	Lucy v. Levington	804, 807
v. Cooper	1684	v. Lucy	817
v. Lewis	476	v. Walrond	1787
Lovelace, In re	373, 1589, 1644	Ludham's Estate	1160, 1162
Lovell v. Field	1794	Ludlow, In the Goods of	1182, 1456
v. Minot	1394	v. Browning	637, 921
v. Nelson	1876	Lufton v. Lufton	1425
Lovell & Brady v. Cox	482	Luffman, In the Goods of	107, 163, 330
Loveren v. Lamprey	6, 221, 1088	Lugg v. Lugg	193
Lovering v. Minot	1391, 1395	Luke v. Marshall	1974
v. Worthington	1250	Luke, In the Goods of	100
Lovett v. Harkness	340	Luken's Appeal	1844, 1851
v. Lovett	47, 1417	Lumb v. Jenkins	12
Lovie's, Leonard, case	676	Lumbell v. Lumbell	133
Low v. Bartlett	362, 1664, 1929	Lumley v. Hutton	1837
v. Burron	681, 683	v. Robbins	1084
v. Porter	847	Lumsden v. Fraser	659
v. Smith	1108	Lund v. Lund	1844, 1846, 1852
Lowe, In the Goods of	247	Lunning v. State	360
v. Bowman	881, 1874	Lupton v. Janney	2029
v. Buchanan	1108	v. Lupton	1429, 1452, 1693, 1712, 1717
v. Fairlie	361	Luscom v. Ballard	302, 1771, 1775, 1787, 1788, 1789
v. Huntingtower	1088	Lush v. Wilkinson	754, 756
v. Joliffe	37, 347	Lushington v. Boldero	709
v. Peskett	1317, 1670, 1685	v. Onalow	130, 132, 134, 144
v. Thomas	1189, 1190	v. Sewell	740, 1199
v. Williamson	39, 40, 41, 46, 47	Luskins v. Carver	387
Lowery v. Craig	846	Luster v. Middlecoff	533
Lowe v. Lowe	1447	Luther v. Kidby	404
Lowfield v. Stoneham	1153, 1260	Lutkins v. Leigh	768, 1694, 1695, 1696, 1716, 1718
Lewis v. Ramney	1803	Lutwyche v. Lutwyche	1501
Lowndes v. Dickerson	705	Luxford v. Cheeke	1276
v. Lord Stamford	832	Lyall v. Paton	1519
v. Lowndes	1425	Lydall v. Dunlap	1753, 1758
v. Norton	204		
v. Stone	1110		

Lyddon v. Ellison	1097, 1338	McCall v. Peabody	981
Lyde v. Russell	747	v. Peachy	1969
Lyles v. Caldwell	540	McCallister v. Brand	1449
v. Hatton	1844, 1845	McCammon v. Worrall	2038
v. Lyles	104, 107	McC Campbell v. Gilbert	291, 534
Lyman v. Fisk	1517	v. McC Campbell	1693, 1707
v. Vanderspiegel	1252	McCandless's Estate	1951
Lynch v. Bellew	244, 252	M'Candlish v. Hopkins	440
v. Clarke	12	M'Carogher v. Whieldon	1301, 1333
v. Clements	37, 47, 49	McCartee v. Camel	818, 2023, 2029
v. Hill	1085	v. Orphan Asylum	1052
v. Thomas	1374	McCartney v. Calhoun	938
Lynes's Trust, In re	1108	McCarty v. Cosgrove	1389
Lynes v. Coley	1664	v. Hull	432
v. Townsends	221, 1088	v. Terry	663
Lynn v. Beaver	1480, 1481	M'Caw v. Blewit	1502, 1504, 1844
Lyon v. Allison	1942	McCay v. M'Cay	197
v. Baker	1855	McChord v. Fisher	291
v. Balfour	319	McClanahan v. Davis	1872, 1374, 1376
v. Colville	1290, 1664, 1666	M'Clane v. Spence	922
v. Lyon	938	M'Clare v. Evans	1337
v. Magagnos	1426	M'Clelland v. Shaw	1708
v. Marshall	878, 880	McClelland's Appeal	416, 417, 424, 426, 427, 453
v. Mitchell	1106, 1111	McClintock v. Graham	736
v. Smith	92	v. McClintock	1225
v. Vick	1376	McClure v. Bates	362
Lyons, Mayor of, v. Advocate Gen. of Bengal	1076	v. McClure	647
Lyons, Mayor of, v. E. Ind. Co.	1074	v. Miller	793
Lyons, Ex parte	473	M'Connell v. Wenrich	856
Lyse v. Kingdom	2034, 2035	McCord v. Fisher	575
Lysons v. Barrow	1896	v. Ochitree	1070, 1072, 1076
Lyster v. Dolland	652	McCormic v. Grogan	552
Lyth v. Ault	1747	McCormick v. Garnett	371, 1309, 1420
Lytleton v. Cross	1032, 1034	McCosker v. Golden	749
Lytton v. Lytton	1088	McCow v. Blewit	1498
Lywood v. Kimber	1114	McCoy v. Broderick	1928
		v. Green	1036, 2007
		v. Hugus	1153
		v. Scott	820
		v. Vultor	1179
		McCracken's Appeal	1694, 1696
		M'Crackren v. Hall	747
		M'Creery v. Allender	12
		Maccubbin v. Cromwell	1827
		McCulloch v. Dawes	1803
		v. Souder	221
		M'Culloh v. Dashiell	1743
		McCullough's Appeal	1276, 1277
		M'Cullough v. Young	362
		M'Cullum, In the Goods of	79
		v. McKenzie	198
		McDaniel v. Crosby	46
		v. Douglass	1444
		v. Parks	1872
		McDaniels v. McDaniels	1801
		M'Dermott v. Kealey	1429
		McDermott v. Wallace	1464
		M'Diarmid v. M'Diarmid	40, 41
		McDonal v. Bryce	1193
		McDonald v. Browning	1875
		M'Donald v. Bryce	1430, 1465
		v. King	654
		v. Walgrove	1267, 1396
		v. Walker	960

## M.

Maas v. Sheffield	54
Maber v. Hobb	751
Maberley v. Strode	1085, 1088
Maberly v. Turton	1410, 1411
M'Adam v. Walker	27
Macartney v. Blundell	1749
McAfee v. Kentucky University	1522
McAllister v. Butterfield	1153
v. State	360
McArthur v. Corrie	1894
Macaulay v. Philips	865, 868
M'Auley v. Wilson	1076
M'Bain v. Wimbish	291
M'Beth v. Hunt	417, 426, 582
v. M'Beth	162
v. Smith	961
McBride v. Elmer	1151
v. Farmer's Bank	362
v. Smyth	751, 1085
M'Cabe, In the Goods of	100, 147, 148
v. Spruil	1108, 1109, 1113
McCaffrey's Estate	575
McCahan's Appeal	1853
M'Call's Estate	1844, 1851

M'Donald v. Webster	1876	M'Kenire v. Fraser	352
v. Williams	878, 1871	McKenna v. Hammond	740
M'Donnell, Ex parte	239, 242	McKenna v. Phillips	749
v. Prendergast	283, 453	McKenna's Appeal	237, 529
McDonogh, Succession of	575	McKenzie's Appeal	1267
McDonough v. Loughlin	77, 96, 345	Mackenzie v. Downing	774
v. McDonough	1055	v. Handaside	39, 347
v. Murdock	1052, 1072, 1266	v. Mackenzie	1135, 1290
McDougald v. King	1498	v. Pendleton	267
McDougall v. McLean	346	v. Taylor	1814, 2041
v. Robertson	908	v. Yeo	343
M'Dowall v. Branham	1980	Mackenzie's Settlement, Re	1361
McDowall v. McDowall	1820	McKeone v. Barnes	50, 51
M'Dowell v. Lawless	1693	Mackey v. Coxz	1664
v. Murdock	775	Mackie v. Alston	1226
v. Wright	1974	v. Mackie	1177, 1392, 1394
Mace v. Cushman	1109	M'Kim v. Thompson	2043
M'Eldery v. M'Kenzie	1774	McKimm v. Riddle	1887
McElhenny's Appeal	1815, 1849, 1860	McKinlay v. McGregor	1734
McElmoyle v. Cohen	1664	M'Kinley v. Call	1940
McElroy v. Thompson	1809, 1846	McKinley v. Lamb	48, 89
McElwaine, In re	67, 88	McKinnon v. Peach	1219, 1292
McElwee v. Sutton	352, 754	v. Sewall	1270
M'Evers v. Pitken	1728	v. Thompson	6
McFadden v. Geddish	405	McKinster v. Smith	1266
McFarland v. Stone	650	McKinstry v. Benson	802
M'Farland's Estate	1803	McKinzie v. Smith	1453
McFarland's Trial	360	Mackintosh v. Barber	938, 953
Macgachen v. Dew	2015	v. Townsend	1074
McGargee v. Naglee	751	v. Trotter	747
McGee v. Ford	1496	Macknet v. Baker	971
v. M'Cants	104	v. Macknet 66, 1075, 1219, 1458,	1459, 1513
v. Porter	75, 82	McKnight v. Morgan	877, 1679
McGehee v. Polk	362	v. Read	231
McGill v. McGill	1794	v. Walsh	1126, 1405, 1841,
M'Gill's Appeal	1243		1844, 1847, 1851, 1853
McGinnis v. Allen	1876	McKonkey's Appeal	108
v. Kempsey	20, 21	Mackreth v. Jackson	1034
M'Glinsey's Appeal	854, 969, 970	v. Symmons	1719
McGonnell v. Murray	778	M'Lachlan v. Taitt	1240
M'Gooch v. M'Gooch	416	MacIae v. Ewing	71
McGowan v. McGowan	650	McLane v. Johnson	754, 1679
v. Wade	582	MacLaren v. Stainton	1394, 1395, 1439,
Macgregor v. Macgregor	1217		1663, 1914
M'Gregor v. M'Gregor	229, 238, 1112,	McLaughlin v. Dorsey	793
	1462, 1464, 1911	v. McLaughlin	1717
M'Guire v. Evans	1162, 1164, 1463	v. Nash	730
McGuire v. Kerr	80	v. Newton	1039
Machew v. Machew	1106	M'Laurin v. Thompson	574
Machin v. Grindon	68, 72, 348, 350	McLean v. Dawson	522, 2017, 2018
McIlwaine v. Gethen	1277	v. Longlands	759
M'Intire v. Carson	265	McLean v. Leach	1994
McIntire v. Morris	1894, 1947	v. Meek	362, 1929
v. Zanesville	1070, 1076	v. Wade	1058
McIntosh v. Humbleton	989	v. Weeks	1679
M'Kay v. Allen	696	McLearn v. McLellan	1700
v. Green	1693	McLellan v. Lunt	891, 1883, 1946
Mackay v. Douglass	754	McLellan's Appeal	2060
v. Mackreth	808	McLemore v. Goode	835, 1178
McKee v. McKee	412	McLenahan v. McLenahan	1694
v. Myers	1727	MacLeod v. Annealey	1808
McKeehan v. Wilson	1085	M'Leod v. Dell	117
McKeen v. Frost	87, 302, 346, 347, 352	v. Drummond	639, 934, 935, 937,
v. Oliphant	1785		938
Mackell v. Winter	1226		

M'Leroth v. Bacon	1120, 1125	M'Worter v. Huling	1682
McLoskey v. Reid	1216, 1402, 1405, 1426	Maddeford v. Austwick	1867
McLoud v. Roberts	1693	Maddison v. Andrew	889
McLure v. Askew	1450	v. Chapman	1217, 1442
v. Steele	1500	Maddock v. Phillips	1896
M'Mahon v. Burchell	1306, 1309	v. Legg	1112
v. Harrison	238, 449	Maddox v. Dent	661
v. Rawlings	362	v. Maddox	1265, 1275, 1277
McMahon v. Ryan	50	Maffey v. Goodwyn	909
McMaster v. McMaster	1513	Magee v. McNeil	120, 188
McMasters v. Blair	23, 35, 40	Magill v. Brown	1055, 1070, 1076
McMorine v. Storey	257, 261	Magner v. Ryan	259
McMullen v. Brown	1376, 1451	Magniac v. Thompson	752
v. O'Reilly	933, 935	Magoffin v. Patton	1225, 1425, 1429
McMulty v. Lewis	763	Magraw v. McGlynn	1841
Macnab v. Whitbread	1126	Magruder v. Peter	655, 954
M'Naghten's case	360	Magworth v. Davis	1029
M'Nair v. Dodge	452	Mahan v. Morgan	1449
v. Ragland	1797	Mahar v. O'Hara	1931
McNair's Appeal	989, 1807, 1822, 1836	Mahon v. Bower	1496
McNairy v. Bell	520	v. Savage	1116
McNamara v. Deyer	1664	Mahony v. Hunter	302
v. Dwyer	362	Maidman v. All persons, &c.	440
Macnamara v. Jones	1860	Main v. Schwarzwaelder	736, 739
v. Whitworth, Lord	1084	Mainwaring v. Baxter	1420
McNaughton v. McNaughton	204, 1088	v. Bevor	1088, 1091
McNeel's Estate	980	Mair v. Quilter	1232
McNeil v. Arnold	857	Maitland v. Adair	1205
M'Neil v. Quince	1931	v. Chalie	1263
McNeillage v. Holloway	848, 850, 851, 852	Major v. Lansley	856
M'Neilledge v. Barclay	1116	v. Major	988
v. Galbraith	1116	v. Peck	486, 492
McNeill v. Cook	1937	v. Williams	181, 214
v. McNeill	1883	Majoribanks v. Hovenden	104, 1621
McNeillie v. Acton	1793	Makeham v. Hooper	1720
McNiel v. McNiel	1909	Makepiece v. Moore	932, 933
Macnin v. Coles	443	Malcolm v. Malcolm	1079, 1080, 1084,
McNinch v. Charles	111, 115, 350, 351		1085, 1088
Macon &c. R. R. Co. v. Davis	1868,	v. Martin	1432, 1434, 1513
	1868	v. O'Callahan	1277, 1278
Macoubrey v. Jones	1097, 1098	v. Taylor	1106, 1219, 1260
McPherson v. Clark	143, 147, 148	Malim v. Keighley	108
v. Snowden	1112	Malin v. Bull	1874, 1940
M'Pherson v. Cunliff	650, 1983	v. Malin	6, 144, 569
Macpherson v. Macpherson	1391, 1392	Mallabar v. Mallabar	664, 1088, 1153
McPhillips v. McPhillips	66	Malone v. Bland	479
McQueen, Estate of	1844	v. Harper	122
McRae v. David	548	v. Hobbs	334
v. McRae	1500, 1816	Malony's Appeal	1852
M'Rae v. Farrow	951, 953	Maltass v. Maltass	368, 369, 1515, 1517
Macrae v. Smith	1916	Maltby v. Russell	1037
McRee v. Means	108	Malte v. Malte	1039
McSorley v. McSorley	41, 48	Manahan v. Gibbons	1820
McTaggart v. Thompson	33, 39, 51, 204,	Manchester & Southport Railway,	
	360	In re	660
MacTier v. Frith	1726	Mander, Re	235
McVaughers v. Elder	631	Manderson v. Lukens	1225
M'Veagh, Re	2047	Mandeville v. Lackey	1112
M'Vicar, In the Goods of	202	v. Mandeville	237, 426, 529
M'Williams, Ex parte	1837	v. Welch	779
v. Falcon	1425	Mandlebaum v. McDonell	653, 1266
v. Hopkins	533	Manesty v. Stevens	1869
v. Nialy	1266	Manfredi, In the Goods of	390
M'Whirter v. Johnson	1947	Mangin v. Mangin	1191
McWillie v. Van Vacter	1966	Mangey v. Hungerford	760

<b>Manigault v. Deas</b>	1088	<b>Marr v. Peay</b>	275
<b>Manion v. Tittsworth</b>	857	<i>v. Ricker</i>	1679
<b>Manley, In the Goods of</b>	239	<i>v. Rucker</i>	1966
<b>Manly v. Lakin</b>	104	<b>Marre v. Gilnochio</b>	965
<i>v. Turnipseed</i>	361, 1883	<b>Marriage v. Skiggs</b>	1915
<b>Mann, In the Goods of</b>	79	<b>Marriion v. Tittsworth</b>	362
<i>v. Burlingham</i>	1068	<b>Marriot v. Marriot</b>	45, 387, 552, 558, 563, 1893
<i>v. Copeland</i>	1170, 1711	<i>v. Thompson</i>	1042, 1043
<i>v. Copland</i>	1160	<b>Marriott v. Abell</b>	1465
<i>v. Fuller</i>	1290, 1296	<i>v. Marriott</i>	402
<i>v. Lang</i>	1969, 1970	<b>Marris v. Burton</b>	1649
<i>v. Lawrence</i>	1852, 1861	<b>Marryat v. Marryat</b>	1012
<i>v. Mann</i>	1153, 1188, 1189, 1216	<b>Marsden, In the Goods of</b>	105
<i>v. Martin</i>	1267	<b>Marsellis v. Thalhimer</b>	1090
<i>v. Ricketts</i>	1153	<b>Marsh, Ex parte</b>	637
<i>v. Thompson</i>	1090, 1091, 1467	<i>v. Att. Gen.</i>	1062
<i>v. Warner</i>	1951	<i>v. Evans</i>	1368
<b>Mannell v. Briggs</b>	791	<i>v. Hague</i>	1387, 1426
<b>Manning v. Herbert</b>	1254	<i>v. Harrington</i>	1820
<i>v. Knapp</i>	434	<i>v. Hunter</i>	1815
<i>v. Manning</i>	1502, 1846, 1851	<i>v. Hutchinson</i>	1515
<i>v. Purcell</i>	568, 569, 1185, 1188, 1801	<i>v. Marsh</i>	83, 97, 153, 179, 215, 378, 749, 1118, 1693, 1709
<i>v. Randolph</i>	835	<i>v. Oliver</i>	957
<i>v. Spooner</i>	1665, 1693	<i>v. People</i>	539, 575, 582, 1829
<i>v. Thesiger</i>	1289	<i>v. Renton</i>	1846
<b>Manning's case</b>	689, 697, 1088	<i>v. Tyrell</i>	40, 48, 60
<b>Mannox v. Greener</b>	1171, 1193	<i>v. Wheeler</i>	654, 658, 663, 1216, 1225, 1243, 1252, 1256, 1458
<b>Manny v. Bixford</b>	758	<b>Marshall, In the Goods of</b>	520
<b>Mansergh v. Campbell</b>	1195	<i>v. Baker</i>	1112
<b>Mansfield v. Shaw</b>	339	<i>v. Bentley</i>	1240
<b>Manuel v. Briggs</b>	877	<i>v. Berry</i>	53, 774, 781, 782
<i>v. Manuel</i>	366	<i>v. Bishop of Exeter</i>	289
<b>Manus v. Flynn</b>	1946, 1951	<i>v. Blew</i>	769
<b>Manvill v. Manvill</b>	907	<i>v. Bremmer</i>	1163, 1177
<b>Manwell v. Briggs</b>	631, 1870	<i>v. Broadhurst</i>	879, 881, 1725, 1794, 1873
<b>Maples v. Milton</b>	707	<i>v. Collett</i>	1144, 1145
<b>Mapp v. Elcock</b>	1478	<i>v. Conrad</i>	12
<b>Mara v. Quin</b>	1954, 1965, 1966, 1981	<i>v. Flinn</i>	46, 47, 48, 49
<b>Maraman v. Trunnell</b>	1871	<i>v. Fowler</i>	1414
<b>Maraver, In the Goods of</b>	63, 366	<i>v. Holloway</i>	1412, 1764, 1856
<b>March v. Att. Gen.</b>	1061	<i>v. Hopkins</i>	1085
<i>v. Fowke</i>	1710	<i>v. King</i>	650
<i>v. Head</i>	1416	<i>v. M'Aravey</i>	1715
<i>v. Russell</i>	1348, 1351, 1356, 1857, 1451, 1452	<i>v. Marshal</i>	187, 204
<b>Marchant v. Cragg</b>	1103	<i>v. Rutton</i>	965
<b>Marcy v. Marcy</b>	265, 304, 820, 335	<i>v. Wilder</i>	1978, 1980
<b>Mardell v. Thelluson</b>	1876, 1952	<i>v. Wood</i>	689
<b>Margetts v. Barringer</b>	750	<b>Marshfield v. Marsh</b>	1887
<b>Margrane v. Archbold</b>	939	<b>Marsteller's Appeal</b>	1853
<b>Markby, In re</b>	831	<b>Marston v. Carter</b>	1396
<b>Markham v. Brooks</b>	547	<i>v. Downes</i>	1972
<b>Marks v. Bryant</b>	120	<i>v. Fox</i>	6
<b>Marlborough v. Godolphin</b>	1085, 1088, 1215	<i>v. Norton</i>	62
<b>Marlott v. Warwick</b>	345	<i>v. Roe dam. Fox</i>	195, 196, 199, 200, 201
<b>Marnell v. Walter</b>	104	<i>v. Roe</i>	360
<b>Marples v. Bainbridge</b>	1276	<b>Marten, In the Goods of</b>	384
<b>Marquis v. Rogers</b>	1965	<b>Martin, In the Goods of</b>	63, 94
<b>Marr v. Littlewood</b>	501	<i>v. Anker</i>	1883
<i>v. McCullough</i>	1225, 1226, 1228, 1236	<i>v. Baker</i>	806
<i>v. Marr</i>	137, 350	<i>v. Ballou</i>	1258, 1263, 1264

<b>Martin v. Bradley</b>	1731	<b>Mason v. White</b>	1090
<b>v. Burton</b>	931	<b>v. Williams</b>	1035
<b>v. Clapp</b>	1901	<b>Mason's Estate</b>	1718
<b>v. Crompe</b>	843	<b>Will, In re</b>	1192, 1221
<b>v. Crump</b>	1865	<b>Massachusetts Bank v. Oliver</b>	2003
<b>v. Drinkwater</b>	1290, 1291, 1295	<b>Massey v. Banner</b>	1807, 1819
<b>v. Frye</b>	1693	<b>v. Hudson</b>	889
<b>v. Fuller</b>	307, 405	<b>v. Massey</b>	2006
<b>v. Glover</b>	1139, 1513	<b>v. Moss</b>	2035
<b>v. Hamblin</b>	83	<b>v. Parker</b>	750, 751
<b>v. Henley</b>	878	<b>Massie v. Griffin</b>	189
<b>v. Holgate</b>	1211	<b>Massingale v. Jones</b>	1974
<b>v. Lakin</b>	379, 380	<b>Massy v. Rowen</b>	750
<b>v. Laverton</b>	1193	<b>Master v. Stone</b>	52
<b>v. Lee</b>	1088, 1097	<b>v. Lamprimaudaye</b>	1215, 1460
<b>v. Margham</b>	1266	<b>Masterman v. Maberley</b>	11, 69, 70, 71,
<b>v. Martin</b>	654, 913, 957, 1035,		104, 106, 107, 162, 169
	1387, 1424, 1425, 1429	<b>Masters v. Barnes</b>	2014
<b>v. Mitchell</b>	19, 93, 351	<b>v. Lewis</b>	1026, 2000
<b>v. Peck</b>	302	<b>v. Masters</b>	1070, 1155, 1181, 1290,
<b>v. Rayborn</b>	1846		1293, 1366, 1367
<b>v. Rebow</b>	1479	<b>Matchwick v. Cock</b>	1089
<b>v. Robinson</b>	340	<b>Matheny v. Guess</b>	856
<b>v. Roe</b>	1738	<b>Mather v. Fraser</b>	730, 734, 739, 740, 743
<b>v. Root</b>	1679	<b>v. Scott</b>	1065, 1067
<b>v. Sherman</b>	662	<b>Matherson v. Grant</b>	1875
<b>v. Smith</b>	1463	<b>Mathes v. Bennett</b>	763, 1844
<b>v. Swannell</b>	1110	<b>v. Jackson</b>	1946
<b>v. Teague</b>	47	<b>v. Smart</b>	1080, 1082, 1182, 1193,
<b>v. Williams</b>	1882		1458
<b>v. Wotton</b>	39	<b>Mathews v. Danbthill</b>	575
<b>v. Wright</b>	1769	<b>v. Mathews</b>	1820, 1833
<b>Martin's Appeal</b>	1221	<b>v. Patterson</b>	531
<b>Martindale, In the Goods of</b>	462	<b>v. Paul</b>	1094, 1095
<b>v. Booth</b>	755	<b>v. Warner</b>	85, 110
<b>v. Picquot</b>	1834	<b>Mathewson v. Stafford Bank</b>	1876, 2003
<b>v. Warner</b>	1078	<b>Mathias, In the Goods of</b>	99
<b>Martineau v. Rede</b>	442	<b>Mathis v. Guffin</b>	662
<b>v. Rogers</b>	1086, 1219	<b>v. Mathis</b>	1161
<b>Martins v. Gardiner</b>	133, 143	<b>Matlock v. Matlock</b>	666
<b>Martlett v. Jackman</b>	1658	<b>Matson v. Clapp</b>	1894
<b>Martyn v. Blake</b>	1427	<b>v. Magrath</b>	196
<b>Marvin v. Marvin</b>	45, 50	<b>v. Swift</b>	622, 623, 658
<b>v. Stone</b>	1310	<b>Mattheson v. Hardwicke</b>	1699
<b>Marwick v. Andrews</b>	1258	<b>Mathews v. Bagshaw</b>	1857
<b>Maryck v. Vanderhorst</b>	1106	<b>v. Brice</b>	1810
<b>Marzetti v. Williams</b>	1751	<b>v. Douthitt</b>	474
<b>Maskeline v. Harrison</b>	495, 497	<b>v. Matthews</b>	1297, 1298, 1299
<b>Mason v. Bateson</b>	1101	<b>v. Maude</b>	1439
<b>v. Boag</b>	1715	<b>v. Newby</b>	1528, 2062
<b>v. Broadbent</b>	2031	<b>v. Page</b>	540
<b>v. Clarke</b>	1094	<b>v. Phillips</b>	1883
<b>v. Dunham</b>	74, 122	<b>v. Venables</b>	204
<b>v. Farnell</b>	1374	<b>v. Warner</b>	74, 354
<b>v. Lambert</b>	1735	<b>Matthey v. Wiseman</b>	2001
<b>v. Martin</b>	1843	<b>Matthison v. Clarke</b>	1856
<b>v. Mason</b>	1086	<b>Mattison v. Tanfield</b>	1513
<b>v. Morgan</b>	849	<b>Mattoon v. Cowling</b>	1310
<b>v. Norcross</b>	881, 1872	<b>Maud v. Maud</b>	1258
<b>v. Nutt</b>	432	<b>Maude v. Maude</b>	1085
<b>v. Pate</b>	1396	<b>Maugham v. Mason</b>	664
<b>v. Peter</b>	1953	<b>Maulding v. Scott</b>	1396
<b>v. Robinson</b>	1078, 1088	<b>Maunday v. Maunday</b>	45
<b>v. Roosevelt</b>	1853	<b>Maundy v. Maundy</b>	820, 1088
<b>v. Sadler</b>	1136	<b>Maurer v. Maurer</b>	417

Mauri v. Hefferman	371	Meeks v. Hahn	830
Mavor v. Davenport	1019	Meeley v. Webber	828
Maw v. Harding	1512	Megitt v. Johnson	433, 435, 1514
Maxes v. Shute	105	Mehrtens v. Andrews	1392
Maxwell, Ex parte	533	Melbourn, In re	1517
Matter of	283, 284	Melhuish v. Maunder	1897
v. Hyslop	1702	Melland v. Gray	1845, 1847
v. McClintock	1253	Mellen v. Baldwin	1728, 1733
v. Maxwell	1444, 1713	v. Boardman	1876
v. Wettenhall	1423, 1424	Mellick v. The Asylum	1073
Maxwell's Trusts, Re	831	Mellin v. Evans	1869
Will, In re	350	Mellish v. Vallins	1702
May v. Bennett	1402	Mellish v. Thompson	363
v. Gilbert	723	Melson v. Cooper	1267
v. Grave	1188	Meluish v. Milton	45, 377, 552, 558
v. Lewin	1480	Melvin v. Easley	360
v. May	1335, 1500	Mence v. Bagster	1463
v. Roper	658	v. Mence	111, 143, 1481
v. Wood	1231	Mendes v. Guedalla	1818, 1823
v. Woodward	1741	v. Mendes	66
May's, Martha, Appeal	1219	Mendum v. Commonwealth	346
Maybank v. Brooks	1204, 1207	Menifee v. Menifee	820
Mayer v. Townsend	1273	Mentney v. Petty	419, 421, 423, 1510
Mayfield v. Clifton	857	Menzies v. Pulbrook	338, 440, 444
v. Kilgour	758	Mercer, In the Goods of	212
Mayhew v. Newstead	466	v. Hall	1278
Maynard v. May	1946	v. Moreland	427
v. Wright	1085, 1112	v. Newson	650, 938
Mayo v. Bentley	1029	Merchant v. Driver	647, 1797, 1986
v. Bland	1158	v. Merchant	771, 781
Mayott v. Mayott	1105	Merchant's Bank v. Birch	2003
Mayrant v. Davis	1160	v. Rawls	1801
Meach v. Meach	774, 777, 778, 779, 781	Merchant's Will	87
Meacher v. Young	1411	Mercien v. Smith	1876
Mead v. Boxborough	1519	Meredith, In the Goods of	178
v. Bryington	932, 938, 1843	v. Farr	1100, 1101
v. Kilday	1987	v. Meredith	193, 1084, 1088,
v. Orrery	934, 937, 1874, 1879		1093
Meador v. Sorsby	6	v. Tooke	1232
Meadows v. Duchess of Kingston	554,	v. Vick	658
v. Meadows	557	Meriton v. Gilbee	931
v. Parry	1504	Merrick's Estate	1675, 1844, 1847
Meakings v. Cromwell	1269	Trusts, In re	1211
Mealer v. Meyers	655, 1052	Merrill v. Emery	1258, 1267, 1288, 1396,
Means v. Means	1895		1445
- v. Moore	47, 74, 104, 1153	v. Harris	549
Meares v. Meares	139, 140, 147	v. Johnson	1396
Mears v. Commonwealth	1090, 1091	v. Neill	1743
v. Sinclair	533	v. New England Ins. Co.	289, 362,
Meason, Ex parte	1523		364, 430, 1663, 1929
Measure v. Carleton	991	v. Rhodes	1502
Mebane v. Womack	1162	Merritt, In the Goods of	178
Meckle v. State	1216, 1219	v. Lambert	1728
Meclenburgh v. Bissell	360	v. Lyon	757
Medcalfe v. Medcalfe	575	v. Richardson	1398, 1399, 1429
Medley v. Wood	1538, 1544, 1545	v. Seaman	878, 1870, 1871, 1872,
Medlicot v. Bowes	549		1876, 1941
Medlycott v. Assheton	2032	v. Thompson	318
Medomak Bank v. Curtis	154	v. Windley	1377
Medworth v. Pope	1876	Merriweather v. Hester	1546
Meehan v. Rourke	1102	Merry v. Hill	1084, 1245
Meek v. Curtis	94	v. Ryves	1278
v. Kettlewell	281	Merryman v. Merryman	1093, 1098, 1110
Meeker v. Meeker	1770	Merryweather v. Turner	334, 336
	1502	Meryon v. Collett	1146

Mesick v. Mesick	1820, 1822	Millege v. Lamar	104, 106, 1084
Messenger v. Andrews	1287	Millenvitch, Matter of	981
v. Clarke	749, 757	Miller v. Alexander	539
v. Hunt	1513	v. Atkinson	1072
Metcalf, In the Goods of	514	v. Beverleys	1846
Metham v. Duke of Devon	1102	v. Bingham	751
Methodist Church v. Remington	1055,	v. Brown	55, 84, 208
	1076	v. Chapman	1219
Methuen v. Methuen	167, 217, 353	v. Chittenden	1088
Metler v. Metler	345	v. Cogden	1399
Mette v. Mette	201	v. Congdon	1796, 1849, 1853
Metters v. Brown	406	v. Dorsey	1803
Metz's Appeal	969	v. Eatman	650
Meure v. Meure	658	v. Faure	1220
Meux v. Bell	1821	v. Flournoy	1080, 1084, 1153
v. Howell	1035, 1916	v. Gable	1057
Mews v. Mews	758, 759	v. Goodwin	752
Meyer v. Fogg	87	v. Harewood	1675
v. Meyer	763	v. Harris	66
v. Montrion	2044	v. Hart	1093
v. Simonsen	1392, 1395	v. Harwell	1693
Meyer's Appeal	1853	v. Helm	937
Meyrick v. Anderson	265, 266	v. Henderson	1888
Michean v. Caldwell	1975	v. Huddlestons	1360, 1361, 1367,
Michaud v. Girod	938		1370
Michel's Trust, In re	1056	v. Janney	989
Michell v. Michell	836, 1178, 1185, 1709,	v. Jasper	539
	1710	v. Jeffress	774, 776
Michener v. Dale	770, 771, 772, 774	v. Johnson	754
Micklemore v. Mudge	856	v. Jones	430, 998, 1004
Mickle v. Matlack	88, 89, 91	v. Little	1162
Micklethwaite v. Micklethwaite	1088	v. McNeill	91
Middlebrook v. Merchant's Bank	362, 364	v. Macomb	1250
Middlehurst v. Johnson	350	v. Meetch	280, 281, 286, 302, 954
Middleton, In the Goods of	153, 476, 477	v. Miller	46, 47, 347, 771, 776,
v. Cater	1069		778, 781
v. Clitherow	1072	v. Philip	1388, 1429
v. Crofts	289	v. Phillips	192, 379
v. Dodswell	2032	v. Plumb	730, 744
v. Messenger	1091	v. Porter	1058, 1069
v. Middleton	1695, 1718	v. Proctor	1809
v. Poole	2044	v. Race	1178
v. Rice	1276, 1277	v. Reigne	631
v. Sherburne	557	v. Rice	1985
v. Spicer	1475	v. Rowan	1072
Middleton's case	284, 302, 405, 631	v. Sheppard	383
Mid Kent Railway, In re	1246	v. Spurre	908
Midland Counties Railway v. Orwin	668,	v. Thurgood	1442
	1185	v. Towles	1841, 1980
Miers v. Bedgood	1454	v. Travers	1153, 1154, 1199, 1200,
Mikell v. Mikell	1806, 1808		1202
Milbank v. Crane	1464	v. Umbehower	793
Miles v. Boyden	216, 220, 1090, 1094,	v. Warren	1219
	1405, 1931	v. Washington	429, 441
v. Clark	1263	v. White	951
v. Durnford	937, 957	v. Williams	757
v. Dyer	1085	v. Williamson	762, 763, 937, 1396,
v. Miles	1331, 1438		1774, 1845
v. Sheffield	1022	v. Wilson	801, 1722, 1734
v. Wheeler	650, 938	Miller's Appeal	1498, 1502, 1504, 1843
v. Williams	894	Miller's case	919
v. Wister	1387, 1429	Estate	691, 694, 1515, 1664
Miles's, Sarah, Will	69, 77	Millican v. Millican	104
Millar v. Sheppard	347	Milligan, In the Goods of	104, 118, 545
Millard v. Bailey	1155	Mills v. Alexander	1519



Mills v. Brown	1163, 1173	Mitchell v. Rucker	1876
v. Carter	575, 576, 578	v. Sidebotham	1083
v. Drewett	1360	v. Smith	5, 105
v. Drewitt	2023	v. Thomas	115, 352
v. Farmer	1076	v. Trotter	1805
v. Jones	998, 1004	v. Vickers	121
v. Lumpkin	1876	v. Warner	803
v. Merryman	820	Mitchelson v. Piper	1036, 1038, 1039
v. Mills	1163, 1177, 1392, 1394,	Mitcheson, In the Goods of	151, 157
	1425, 1445	Mitford v. Mitford	869
v. Roberts	1428, 1430	v. Reynolds	1069, 1071, 1073,
v. Trumper	831		1074, 1075
Miltown v. Trench	1425	Mittenberger v. Schlegel	1931
Milne v. Gilbert	410, 1119	Mix's Appeal	2060
v. Moreton	990, 1664	Mocatta v. Lindo	1248
v. Parker	1163	Modawell v. Holmes	1860
Milner v. Colmer	1416	Mœhring v. Mitchell	318; 464, 1204
v. Harewood	1139	Mœhrt v. Moëssard	1935
v. Mills	1762	Moffat v. Strong	1106
v. Milner	1200, 1263	v. Van Millingen	913
v. Slater	1479	Moffett v. Bates	1765
Milnes, In the Goods of	517	Mogg v. Hodges	1720
v. Slater	1079, 1478, 1693	v. Mogg	1054, 1112
Milroy v. Milroy	1235	Moggridge v. Thackwell	1057, 1076, 1088,
Milsom v. Awdry	1084, 1217		1291
Milsome v. Long	569	Mohr v. Sherman	1870
Miltenberger v. Commonwealth	533	Mole v. Mole	1429
v. Knox	291	Mollan v. Griffiths	1359, 1693
Milward v. Moore	954	Molony v. Kennedy	61, 749, 871
Mims v. Mims	1860	Molton v. Mumford	1731
Miner v. Atherton	1303	Molyneux v. Rowe	185, 1183
v. Baldwin	1360	Monahan v. Gibbons	1833
Minet v. Hyde	1416	Monck v. Monck	1331, 1333, 1337
Minkler v. Minkler	157	Monday, In the Goods of	56, 384
Minnig v. Batdorf	1241	Monell v. Monell	1822, 1833, 1836
Minor v. Mead	575, 1679	Moneypenny v. Bristow	204, 214, 1913
v. Minor	1876	v. Brown	- 46
v. Thomas	40	Monkhouse v. Holme	1239
Minor's Trusts, In re	1232, 1243	v. Monkhouse	1085
Minot v. Amory	1391, 1796	Monroe v. Barclay	47
v. Boston Asylum and Farm		v. Holmes	1086
School	1153	v. James	302
v. Paine	1397	v. Wilson	658
v. Thompson	1393, 1395	Monson v. Palmer	1514, 1519
Minshall v. Lloyd	747	Montacute, Lady, v. Maxwell	753
Minter v. Wraith	1124, 1136	Montagu v. Nucella	1085, 1114
Minuse v. Cox	6, 1844	Montague v. Carneal	650
Mirehouse v. Scaife	1717	v. Dent	739
Mirril v. Nicholls	1081	v. Montague	1331, 1332, 1333
Mitchel v. Lunt	257, 266	v. Sandwich	756, 1191
Mitchell, In the Goods of	377	v. Smith	1758
v. Adams	280	Montalvan v. Clover	1664
v. Billingsley	707, 730	Montefiore v. Montefiore	38, 69, 73, 74
v. Blain	1371	Montefiori v. Guedeila	1334
v. Colls	1098	Monteith v. Nicholson	1263
v. Gard	357, 358, 376	Montford v. Cadogan	1739
v. Gates	750	Montgomerie v. Woodley	1430
v. Kirk	261, 263, 273	Montgomery, In the Goods of	106, 240
v. Lunt	444, 650	v. Armstrong	1656
v. Mitchell	110, 354, 355, 832,	v. Dorion	12
	1153, 1502, 1504, 1693, 1707	v. Dunning	985, 1966
v. Moorman	437	v. Millikin	650
v. Mount	991, 998, 1004	v. Perkins	94, 103, 345
v. Pease	782	v. Reynolds	1974
v. Rice	302	Montresor v. Montresor	1191

<b>Monypenny v. Bristow</b>	1731	<b>Moore v. Tanner</b>	432, 549, 563, 586, 590
<b>Moodie v. Bainbridge</b>	913	<i>v. Thornton</i>	856
<i>v. Bannister</i>	1804	<i>v. Weaver</i>	1092
<b>Moody, Ex parte</b>	2053	<i>v. Whitehouse</i>	380
<i>v. Ewing</i>	1872, 1936, 1938	<i>v. Wilkins</i>	1518, 1519
<i>v. Fulmer</i>	654	<i>v. Willett</i>	956, 1868
<i>v. Moody</i>	436	<b>Moore's Estate</b>	1805
<i>v. Walker</i>	1106	<b>Moores v. Choat</b>	525
<i>v. Vandyke</i>	650, 654	<b>Moorfoot v. Chivers</b>	1991
<b>Moore v. White</b>	12, 218, 220, 223, 549, 1803, 2029	<b>Moorhead's Appeal</b>	2051
<b>Moon v. Andrews</b>	1956	<b>Moorhouse v. Lord</b>	1517, 1519, 1520, 1521
<i>v. Henderson</i>	1108	<b>Mootrie v. Hunt</b>	445
<i>v. Stone</i>	1097	<b>Moran v. Dillehay</b>	1081
<b>Mooney v. Evans</b>	1181	<b>Mordaunt v. Hussey</b>	1480
<b>Moons v. Bernales</b>	1912	<b>Mordecai v. Boylan</b>	1097, 1098
<i>v. De Bernales</i>	563	<b>More v. Bennett</b>	1728
<b>Moor v. Barham</b>	1510	<i>v. More</i>	289
<i>v. Braham</i>	423	<b>More's, Sir William, case</b>	942
<i>v. Mellor</i>	1088	<b>Morehouse v. Cotheal</b>	89
<i>v. Raisbeck</i>	660, 1097, 1330	<b>Morely v. Rennoldson</b>	1275
<b>Moore v. Allen</b>	21, 345	<b>More's Trust, In re</b>	1219, 1221, 1260, 1296
<i>v. Barber</i>	62, 757	<b>Moreby, In the Goods of</b>	173
<i>v. Barre</i>	1372	<i>In re</i>	123
<i>v. Beauchamp</i>	1806, 1809, 1844	<b>Moreton v. Hopkins</b>	1733
<i>v. Beckwith</i>	1712, 1717	<b>Moreton's case</b>	792, 878
<i>v. Budd</i>	367	<b>Morgan, Goods of</b>	56, 106, 107, 430
<i>v. Burrows</i>	660	<i>v. Abergavenny, Earl of</i>	704
<i>v. Darell</i>	1517, 1524	<i>v. Annis</i>	57, 562
<i>v. Darton</i>	778, 783	<i>v. Arthurs</i>	730
<i>v. Dimond</i>	1092, 1093	<i>v. Britton</i>	1462
<i>v. Dornie</i>	1020	<i>v. Creditors, His</i>	1743
<i>v. Farmer</i>	430	<i>v. Dodge</i>	280, 291, 292, 529, 571, 575, 576, 578, 586, 588, 1153, 1454, 1951
<i>v. Fields</i>	361	<i>v. Edwards</i>	1449
<i>v. Frowd</i>	1856	<i>v. Elstob</i>	2040
<i>v. Godfrey</i>	1397	<i>v. Gaines</i>	361
<i>v. Greene</i>	293	<i>v. Knight</i>	653
<i>v. Gwynn</i>	371, 1088	<i>v. Morgan</i>	763, 1163, 1176, 1177, 1392
<i>v. Hacket</i>	43	<i>v. Perry</i>	1088, 1108, 1484
<i>v. Hamilton</i>	1809	<i>v. Pope</i>	1194
<i>v. Harrisburg Bank</i>	689	<i>v. Nelson</i>	1854
<i>v. Hilton</i>	650, 938, 1332	<i>v. Rarey</i>	1730
<i>v. Holmes</i>	974, 981, 2060	<i>v. Rotch</i>	2006
<i>v. Hudson</i>	2023	<i>v. Thames Bank</i>	748, 853
<i>v. Hunt</i>	1975	<i>v. Thomas</i>	408
<i>v. Kerr</i>	1983	<b>Morice v. Bishop of Durham</b>	1075, 1076, 1077
<i>v. King</i>	90, 91, 95	<b>Morison v. Motison</b>	1856
<i>v. Lyons</i>	1079, 1225	<b>Morits v. Brough</b>	47, 51, 360
<i>v. Meynell</i>	2022, 2023	<i>v. Hoffman</i>	754
<i>v. Moore</i>	15, 17, 39, 40, 89, 91, 133, 178, 426, 778, 1070, 1076, 1172, 1178, 1702	<b>Morley v. Bird</b>	1166, 1215
<i>v. Morris</i>	750	<i>v. Polhill</i>	805, 807
<i>v. Paine</i>	19, 344	<i>v. Rennoldson</i>	127
<i>v. Parcher</i>	1802, 1803, 1946	<b>Morrall v. Sutton</b>	1084
<i>v. Parker</i>	1947	<b>Morrell v. Dickey</b>	104, 432, 549, 551, 1405, 1929
<i>v. Paul</i>	1112	<i>v. Fisher</i>	1152
<i>v. Petchell</i>	2028	<i>v. Morrell</i>	118
<i>v. Prior</i>	1917	<b>Morrice v. Bank of England</b>	1035, 1036, 1685
<i>v. Ryers</i>	990	<b>Morrill v. Fisher</b>	1153, 1966
<i>v. Shields</i>	1692	<i>v. Morrill</i>	261, 1663
<i>v. Smith</i>	575, 586, 736, 1224, 1230, 1232		
<i>v. Stevens</i>	52		
<i>v. Tandy</i>	1821		

<b>Morris, In the Goods of</b>	481	<b>Moses v. Julian</b>	292
<i>v. Barrett</i>	652	<i>v. Levi</i>	405, 1825
<i>v. Burroughs</i>	1274, 1535, 1543, 1544	<i>v. Murgatroyd</i>	689, 1895
<i>v. Glynn</i>	1062	<b>Mosher v. Youst</b>	686
<i>v. Henderson</i>	1178, 1458	<b>Mosier v. Zimmerman</b>	1953
<i>v. Howes</i>	1131, 1135, 1144, 1147	<b>Mosley v. Ward</b>	1432, 1848
<i>v. Kearsley</i>	666	<b>Moss v. Bardwell</b>	242
<i>v. Kent</i>	1281	<i>v. Brander</i>	56
<i>v. Kniffin</i>	94	<i>v. Dunlop</i>	1123
<i>v. Leveay</i>	945	<i>v. McCall</i>	750
<i>v. Livia</i>	1364, 1404, 2053	<b>Mosser v. Mosser</b>	104
<i>v. Morris</i>	1679	<b>Mostyn v. Mostyn</b>	1152, 1248
<i>v. Mowatt</i>	1693	<b>Motham v. Motham</b>	1413
<i>v. Smith</i>	650, 1983	<b>Mothland v. Wireman</b>	362, 1664
<i>v. Stokes</i>	40, 42, 45, 47, 48, 360	<b>Motley v. Sawyer</b>	749, 851
<b>Morrison, In the Goods of</b>	469	<b>Moule v. Garrett</b>	1751
<i>v. Cones</i>	594	<b>Moulson v. Moulson</b>	1300
<i>v. Jewell</i>	1876	<b>Moulton v. Wendell</b>	1871, 1896
<i>v. Kurtz</i>	1743	<b>Moulton's Petition</b>	333, 571
<i>v. Lennard</i>	17	<b>Moultrie v. Hemp</b>	1515
<i>v. Martin</i>	1156	<i>v. Hunt</i>	366
<i>v. Morrison</i>	185	<b>Mounsey v. Blamire</b>	1079, 1109, 1153, 1155
<i>v. Smith</i>	261	<b>Mounson v. Bourn</b>	1838
<b>Morrow v. Peyton</b>	533, 534, 1820	<b>Mountain v. Bennet</b>	39, 44, 47
<i>v. Scott</i>	1497	<i>v. Young</i>	1084
<b>Morris v. Slasson</b>	1900	<b>Mountford v. Gibson</b>	267, 270, 271, 272, 407
<b>Morse v. Bellows</b>	1892	<b>Mousley v. Carr</b>	1163, 1394, 1845, 1846
<i>v. Crawford</i>	346	<b>Mowatt v. Carow</b>	1098, 1219
<i>v. M'Coy</i>	1895, 1897	<b>Mower v. Orr</b>	658, 1222
<i>v. Mason</i>	1089, 1216, 1221	<b>Mowrey v. Smith</b>	1502
<i>v. Morse</i>	1090, 1094	<b>Mowry v. Adams</b>	879, 1871
<i>v. Powers</i>	755	<i>v. Gilber</i>	48
<i>v. Roach</i>	390	<i>v. Silver</i>	350
<i>v. Slason</i>	2006	<b>Moye v. Albritton</b>	989, 1797
<i>v. Thompson</i>	54, 62	<i>v. Kittrell</i>	6, 107
<i>v. Tucker</i>	1688	<i>v. May</i>	1515
<b>Morse's Settlement, In re</b>	1248	<b>Moyer's Appeal</b>	872
<i>Trust, In re</i>	1257	<b>Moyle, In re</b>	996
<b>Morsell v. Ogden</b>	74	<b>Moyle v. Moyle</b>	1815
<b>Mortimer v. Hartley</b>	1085	<b>Mucklow v. Fuller</b>	1287, 1796, 1806, 1828
<i>v. Ireland</i>	960	<b>Mudway v. Croft</b>	37
<i>v. Moffatt</i>	1396	<b>Muir v. Leake and Watts' Orphan</b>	
<i>v. Paull</i>	497	<i>House</i>	265
<i>v. West</i>	1081, 1101	<i>v. Trustees, &amp;c.</i>	549
<b>Mortlock v. Leathes</b>	2044	<b>Muirhead v. Muirhead</b>	281, 416, 576
<b>Mortlock's Trusts, In re</b>	1267	<b>Muldrow v. Fox</b>	954
<b>Morton, In the Goods of</b>	393	<b>Mules v. Jennings</b>	1630
<i>v. Barrett</i>	1108, 1109	<b>Mullanphy v. County Court</b>	440
<i>v. Hatch</i>	362	<b>Mullen v. Bowman</b>	1478
<i>v. Hopkins</i>	792	<i>v. McKelvy</i>	67, 346, 375
<i>v. Onion</i>	192, 202	<b>Mullick v. Mullick</b>	971
<i>v. Perry</i>	1153, 1190	<b>Mulligan v. Wallace</b>	937
<i>v. Smith</i>	1820	<b>Mullins v. Cottrell</b>	30
<b>Morwan v. Thompson</b>	63, 192	<i>v. Smith</i>	1160, 1165, 1182
<b>Moseley v. Floyd</b>	938	<b>Mullock v. Sonder</b>	6, 375
<i>v. Marshall</i>	1396	<b>Mumford v. Murray</b>	1822, 1847
<i>v. Massey</i>	1088	<i>v. Rickards</i>	157
<i>v. Randell</i>	1873	<b>Mumma's Accounts</b>	1860
<i>v. Rendell</i>	917, 1658	<b>Mumper's Appeal</b>	1860
<i>v. Ward</i>	2035	<b>Munch v. Cockerell</b>	1820, 1848, 2015
<b>Moseley's Trusts, In re</b>	1250	<b>Munday v. Slaughter</b>	345
<b>Mosely v. Baker</b>	1264	<i>v. Taylor</i>	26, 37, 360
<i>v. Taylor</i>	1776, 1778	<b>Mundy, In the Goods of</b>	104
<b>Moses v. Crafer</b>	615		

## TABLE OF CASES.

2511

Munn, Estate of	1854	Mygatt v. Willcox	1867
v. Dunkin	933	Mynn v. Robinson	48, 60, 340
Munnikhuyzen v. Magraw	115	Mytton v. Boodle	1106
Munro v. Coutts	72		
v. Munro	1517, 1518		
Munroe v. Douglass	1519, 1520, 1521, 1524	N.	
v. Holmes	478, 534, 540, 647, 1861	Nab v. Nab	123
v. Merchant	1887	Nabb v. Nixon	1966
Munsey v. Webster	440, 578	Nagle's Appeal	658
Munt v. Stokes	883	Neil v. Punter	624
Muntz v. Brown	1791	Nailing v. Nailing	39
Murdock v. Gifford	730	Nair's Appeal	936
v. Harris	730, 736	Nalle v. Fenwick	334, 346
v. Ratcliffe	673	Nancy v. Snell	1374, 1376
Murkin v. Phillipson	1234, 1254	Nanfan v. Legh	1088
Murphee v. Singleton	1380	Nanmickel, In re	204
Murphy v. Harvey	1261	Nanny v. Martin	865
v. Menard	473	Napier, In the Goods of	584
v. Murphy	86, 87, 93, 286, 469	v. Howard	1093
v. Nathans	1499	Napoleon Bonaparte, In re	385
Murphy's Appeal	1983	Nash v. Nash	846, 850, 862, 889, 1225
Murray, In the Goods of	464	v. Morley	1076
v. Addenbrook	1234	v. Yelloly	376
v. Blatchford	1836	Nass v. Van Swearingen	257, 267
v. Blatchson	946	Nat v. Coons	371
v. Cannon	774	Nathan v. Morse	71
v. Davis	1974	Nathans v. Morris	1853
v. E. I. Company	630, 882, 1874	Nation v. Tozer	911, 949, 1755, 1761
v. Elibank, Lord	864, 865, 1417, 1419	Nations v. Hawkins	1728
v. Johnston	185	Navigation Co. v. Green	254, 474
v. Jones	1087, 1270	Naylor, In the Goods of	412, 428, 950
v. M'Inerheny	536	v. Collinge	730
v. Mumford	1658	Naylor v. Moffatt	361, 550
v. Murray	96, 1743	v. Stainsby	242
v. Oliver	204, 212, 216, 576	v. Wetherell	1441
v. Phillips	1895	Neagle v. Castlehaven	383
v. Smith	1951	Neal v. Baker	271
v. Tancred	1232	v. Cossen	1086
Murrell v. Cox	947, 1833	v. Hanbury	789
Murry v. Murry	69, 74, 375	v. Knox & c. R. R. Co.	1657
Mursley v. Grandborough	645	v. Patten	944
Murton v. Markby	1084, 1177	Neal's, Sir Paul, case	757
Musgrave v. Down	105	Neale v. Hagthorp	915
Muskett v. Eaton	1243	Neare v. Jenkins	1098
Mussault, In re	280	Neate v. Pickard	215, 218
Mussleman's Estate	1502	Neathway v. Reed	1082, 1219, 1260, 1263, 1465
Musslemen v. Eshleman	650	Neave v. Alderton	1714
Musser v. Curry	206	Neave's Estate	462, 1474
Musson v. May	1017, 1024	Nebinger v. Upp	1094
Musto v. Sutcliffe	71, 74	Nector v. Gennet	1341
Mutlow v. Mutlow	1683	Necton v. Gennet	1341
Mutter's Estate	1084	Needham, In re	381
Mutual Benefit Life Ins. Co. v. Tisdale	549, 562, 1887	v. Allison	731
Myddleton v. Rushout	976, 977	v. Corke	1873
Myer v. Cole	1873	v. Croke	878
Myer's Appeal	1112	v. Grand Trunk Railroad	797
Myers v. Daviess	239, 242	v. Ide	346, 1085
v. Eddy	1079, 1712, 1717	v. Needham	94
v. Fritz	534	Needham's, Sir John, case	575, 1310, 1313, 1314
v. Myers	1090, 1091, 1846, 1849	Needles v. Martin	1070
v. Perigal	1062	v. Needles	1499
v. Riggs	1153	Neel v. Potter	359

Neeves v. Burrage	943, 1038	Newell v. Newell	1088
Neff's Appeal	986, 1806, 1808	v. Weeks	334, 336, 337, 549
Negley v. Gard	107, 1933	Newell's case	54, 1154
Negroes v. Plummer	108	New England Bank v. Newport &c. Co.	1946
Negro Jerry v. Townsend	360	Newhall v. Turney	1876
Negus v. Coulter	1061	Newhall's Estate	1217
Nehbe v. Price	1774	Newhouse v. Godwin	40, 46, 47, 89, 103, 111, 346
Neibert v. Withers	1915	Newill v. Newill	1094
Neil v. Neil	86, 91, 92, 93	Newill's case	1499
v. Newbern	687	Newkerk v. Newkerk	1267
Neilson v. Cook	1819	Newkirk v. Hawes	1124
v. Lagow	1052	Newland v. Att. Gen.	1071, 1151
Nelson v. Carter	1169	v. Champion	2020
v. Cornwell	1372, 1784, 1801	Newlands v. Paynter	750
v. Boynton	1777, 1782	Newlin v. Freeman	54, 66
v. Bush	1498, 1500	Newlon's Estate	347
v. Goree	749	Newman, In the Goods of	92
v. Hopkins	1153	v. Auling	1427
v. McGiffert	37, 86, 88, 96, 102, 103, 147, 165, 185, 380	v. Barton	1450, 1451
v. Moore	1216	v. Bateson	1425
v. Nelson	1298	v. Beaumont	575
v. Oldfield	45, 549	v. Jenkins	318, 562
v. Page	1805	v. Newman	1243
v. Public Administrator	127, 137	v. Nightingale	1085, 1114
v. Serle	262, 1777	v. Wilbourne	1499
v. Smith	763	v. Wilson	1414, 1702
v. Wyan	1498	Newport v. Godfrey	1011
Nelson, Earl, v. Bridport, Earl	371	v. Kynaston	1290
Nelthorp v. Biscoe	1451	Newsom v. Jackson	793
Nesbit v. Stewart	265	Newsam v. Newsam	1730
v. Taylor	263	Newton, In the Goods of	519
Nesmith v. Dinsmore	1498	v. Bennet	1684
Netherton v. Jessop	1751	v. Bennett	1845, 1846, 2035
Netter v. Brett	389	v. Bronson	654
Nettles v. D'Oyley	791	v. Clarke	92
Nuttleton v. Dinehart	793, 796, 1734	v. Cocke	281
v. Nettleton	1500	v. Cooke	361
Nettman v. Schramm	1821	v. Griffith	1085, 1106
Nevill v. Boddam	1465	v. Marsden	1275
v. Nevill	1287	v. Metropolitan Railway Company	293, 304, 308, 309
Neville v. Fortescue	1163, 1177	v. Newton	1820
Nevin v. Drysdale	1301	v. Osborn	1751
New v. Bonaker	1076	v. Richards	1992
v. Jones	1853	v. Ricketts	500
Newbegin v. Bell	989, 1371	v. Walker	908, 2002
Newbold, In the Goods of	417	Newton's Trusts, In re	1109
v. Britchett	1221	N. Y. Ann. Conference &c. Society	
v. Pritchett	1190	v. Clarkson	1151
Newbolt v. Price	1152	New York Institution &c. v. How	1151
Newburgh v. Newburgh	1087	Nexen v. Nexen	45, 48, 342
Newbury, Earl of, v. Newbury, Count- ess of	359, 1153	Nicholas v. Adams	770, 772, 774, 781, 782
Newburyport Bank v. Stone	56	Nicholls v. Binns	27, 375
Newcastle, Duke of, v. Lincoln	725	v. Haviland	1207, 1219
Newcastle Banking Co., The Official Manager of, v. Hymers	1344	v. Judson	1297, 1298, 2012
Newcomb v. Goss	534, 989, 999, 1953	v. Nicholls	106
v. Stebbins	650, 817	v. Osborn	1181, 1259, 1430
v. Williams	7, 242, 534, 541, 575, 629, 650, 1399, 1404, 1405, 1454, 1474, 1796, 1820, 1821	Nichols v. Binns	21, 25, 342
v. Wing	1680	v. Chapman	989
Newcome v. Beloe	443	v. Denny	1093, 1513
		v. Haviland	1120
		v. Lewis	1153
		v. Savage	1119

Nicholson, In the Goods of	385	Norris v. State	346
Re	1867, 2012	v. Thompson	1076
v. Elton	1728	Norris's Appeal	1841, 1843, 1846, 2847, 1849, 1851, 1853, 1029
v. Sherman	1933	North v. Baker	1738
v. Showerman	1979	v. Martin	1081
v. Tutin	1854	North, Lord, v. Purdon	1478, 1481
v. Wilson	1124, 1133	Northcote v. Duke	942
Nickalls, In the Goods of	162	Northcutt v. Northcutt	75
Nickerson v. Bowly	1444, 1474, 1479	Northern v. Carnegie	681, 683, 1467
v. Buck	75, 87, 88, 347, 352	Northern Coal Mining case, In re	1748
Nield v. Smith	1770	Northern C. R. Co. v. Canton Co.	744
Nightingale v. Burrell	1093, 1106	v. Keighton	1853
v. Goulburn	1071, 1076	Northey v. Burbage	1260
v. Hidden	750	v. Northey	764, 766, 1372
v. Lee	1033, 1973	v. Strange	1528, 1529, 1537, 1543
Nimmo v. Commonwealth	989	Northumberland's, Earl of, case	723
Nimms v. Commonwealth	1852	North Yarmouth v. West Gardiner	1517, 1519, 1520
Nipper v. Groesbeck	89	Norton, Ex parte	1419
Nisbet v. Stewart	362	v. Bazett	93
Nisbett v. Murray	1172, 1460	v. Frecker	1802
Nix v. Bradley	751	v. Gennet	1341
Nixon v. Robbins	1235, 1243	v. Glover	847
v. Rose	751	v. Harvey	1964
Noble v. Brett	1451, 2035	v. Molineux	473
v. Burritt	87	v. Molyneux	495
v. Cass	842	v. Norton	754, 1503, 1679
v. Jones	1804	v. Palmer	362, 431, 1929
v. Meymott	2035	v. Relly	47
v. Phelps	55, 222, 384	v. Sewall	785, 796, 1734
v. Stow	1462	v. Turvill	2049
Nock v. Nock	91	Norwich, Mayor of, v. Johnson	258
Noddings, In the Goods of	275, 286	Norwood v. Brach	1499
Noel, In the Goods of	529, 546	v. Cobb	1894, 1929
v. Harvey	1860	v. Marrow	360
v. Jones	1288	v. Read	790
v. Lord Henley	1392, 1654, 1698, 1712	Nott v. Stephens	786
v. Noel	1088, 1710, 1711	Nourse v. Finch	1481
v. Robinson	1450, 1451	Nowell v. Bragdon	650
v. Rochfort	1434	v. Nowell	1803
v. Wells	549, 550	Nowlan v. Nelligan	1260, 1263
Noell v. Nelson	1955, 1980, 1993	Nowlin v. Scott	120
v. Robinson	1665	Noyes v. Barber	66, 325, 333, 334
Nokes v. Seppings	2044	Noys v. Mordaunt	688
Noland v. Calvit	1820	Nugee v. Chapman	1183
Noonan v. Bradley	362	Nugent v. Giffard	933, 934, 937
Norbury v. Norbury	1808, 1810	Nunn v. Barlow	1036, 1040
Norcott v. Gordon	1364	v. Owens	239, 1379
Norden v. Levit	1670, 1800	Nussar v. Arnold	50, 360
Norfleet v. Riddick	261	Nusz v. Grove	417, 449
Norfolk's, Duke of, case	676	Nutt v. Nutt	552
Norman v. Baldry	1021, 1349	Nutter v. Vickery	1080, 1108, 1221, 1222, 1402, 1796
v. Bourne	444	Nutting v. Goodridge	793
v. Fraser	1463	Nyce's Estate	1804
v. Grognard	237	Nye v. Howard	1052
v. Kynaston	8, 185		
v. Morrell	1155		
Norman's Trust, In re	1098, 1119		
Norris, In the Goods of	117		
v. Beyea	1084, 1219		
v. Clark	1445		
v. Elsworth	818		
v. Fraser	552		
v. Harris	66		
v. Harrison	'823, 835, 1162, 1439		

Obert v. Hanwell	938	Ommaney v. Bevan	1260
O'Bierne, In re	1106	v. Bingham	1515
Oble v. Dittlesfield	1782	v. Butcher	1076, 1077, 1189, 1456, 1480
O'Brien v. Galagher	91	v. Stilwell	1204
v. Hagan	409	O'Neal v. Mead	768, 1695
v. Heeney	1086	v. Tisdale	533
v. Moody	1983	v. Ward	1458
O'Byrne, In the Goods of	439, 544	O'Neill v. Booser	1080, 1085
v. O'Byrne	1254	v. Farr	46, 47, 51, 147, 150, 153, 155, 186, 225
O'Callaghan v. Cooper	2035	v. Herbert	1836
Ochiltree v. Wright	1820, 1833, 1836	O'Neill v. Donnell	1853, 1863
O'Connor v. Haslam	1633, 2028	v. Murray	48
v. The State	539	v. Smith	120
Oddie v. Woodford	1113	Ongley v. Chambers	1153
O'Dee v. McCrate	1901	Onions v. Tyrer	140, 148, 154, 185
Odell v. Crone	1088	Onslow v. Cannon	375
v. Odell	1055	v. Onslow	1532, 1535
O'Dell v. Young	1806	Oppenheim v. Henry	567, 569, 1090
Odiorne's Appeal	417	v. Wolf	318
O'Donnell v. Hitchcock	728	Orcutt v. Orms	1982
O'Driscoll v. Fishburne	254	Ord v. Fenwick	879, 881, 1873, 1896
v. Koger	1230, 1449	v. Huddleston	1912
O'Dwyer v. Geare	59, 227, 389, 453	O'Reilly v. Hendricks	263
O'Ferrald, Ex parte	1419	Ordronaux v. Helie	1515, 1664
Offley v. Best	435, 579, 581	Ordway v. Godfrey	1992
v. Offley	971	Orford, Lord, v. Churchill	1098, 1103, 1112
Offut v. Offut	74, 121, 122	Oriental Bank v. Blake	2003
Ogilvie v. Ogilvie	1844	Orleans, Duchess of, In the Goods of	370, 450, 484, 1517
Oglander v. Baston	864, 867	Orme v. Broughton	804
Ogle v. Knipe	1129	v. Smith	1322
v. Morgan	1149	Ormode v. Kyndersley	709
Oglesby v. Howard	575, 1805	Orphan Asylum v. McCartee	1070
Oguel's, Andrew, case	53, 835, 841, 929	Orphans of London's case	1547
O'Hara v. Chaine	1447	Orr v. Kaines	974, 1450, 1452
O'Hear v. Skeeles	1895	v. Moses	1084, 1402
Ohio v. Cutting	534	v. Newton	280, 1815, 1830
Oke v. Heath	1215, 1223	Orrell v. Orrell	1442
v. Needham	587	Orser v. Orser	37, 346, 347
Oldershaw v. Holt	832	Orton v. Orton	1051
Oldfield v. Cobbett	1927, 1928	Orton's Trust, In re	1211
v. Preston	1588, 1595	Osborn v. Cook	87, 88, 89, 93
Oldham v. Carleton	1481	v. Gillett	796
v. Collins	534	v. Morgan	748, 846, 1415
v. Hubbard	828, 839	Osborne, In the Goods of	367
v. Litchfield	1153	v. Brown	1279
v. Oldham	1266	v. Crosbern	1741
v. Pickering	683, 915, 1672	v. Guy's Hospital	1768
Olding, In the Goods of	90	v. Leeds, Duke of	1291
Oldman v. Slater	1083, 1480	v. Moss	261
Old South Society v. Crocker	1072, 1077	v. Rogers	265, 267, 269, 270
Olipphant, In the Goods of	226, 240, 323	v. Varney	1199
v. Hendrie	1074	Osgood v. Breed	53, 54, 56, 340, 376, 385, 549, 1496, 1498, 1502
Olivant v. Wright	1061	v. Franklin	954
Oliver v. Brigland	1494	v. Lovering	1097, 1098
v. Frewen	1480	Osmond v. Fitzroy	40
v. Hearne	1974	v. Tindall	1101
v. Oliver	1166	Osterhout v. Hardenburgh	1980
v. Pratt	1843	Oswald's Appeal	1846
Olivier v. Townes	1515, 1664	Other v. Ivison	1744, 1746
Olmsted v. Clark	270	Otis v. Boston	1519
Olney v. Bates	1123, 1221, 1465		
v. Hull	1224, 1225		
O'Loughlin, In the Goods of	1178		
Olwine's Appeal	461		
O'Mahoney v. Burdett	1261		

## 2515

Otis v. Prince	1277	Page v. Leapingwell	1088, 1171, 1194,
Otley Railway, In re	221		1361, 1363
Ottersen v. Hofford	37, 347	v. May	1272
Ottinger v. Ottinger	581	v. Page	117, 1216, 1462, 1469, 1470,
Ottley v. Gilby	2034, 2036		1471, 1502
Oughton v. Seppings	306	v. Soper	1125
Ousely v. Anstruther	1200, 1710	Page's Appeal	1396, 1428
v. Carroll	104	Patet v. Gee	827, 828, 829
Outlaw v. Farmer	273, 1526	v. Grenfell	1301
Overall v. Overall	143, 147, 347	v. Huish	1160
Overbury v. Overbury	193	v. Read	1837
Overend v. Gurney	1296	Paglar v. Tongue	56
Overfield v. Bullitt	933	Paice v. Archbishop of Canterbury	971,
Overhill's Trust, In re	1099, 1100		1083, 1088
Overington v. Ward	2033	Paige, In the Matter of	571
Overly v. Overly	1801	Pain v. Benson	1217
Overstreet v. Potts	1844	Paine v. Parsons	217, 1333, 1335, 1337
Overton v. Sawyer	776	v. Paulk	763
v. Sydhall	1752	v. Prentiss	1221
Owen v. Blanchard	961	v. Stone	534
v. Boyle	371	v. Ulmer	791
v. Brown	1935	v. Wagner	1094
v. Bryant	1100, 1101	Painter v. Salisbury	1462
v. Curzon	900, 920	Palfrey v. Portland, Saco & Ports-	
v. Holden	491	mouth R. R. Co.	371, 796, 1088
v. Miller	1663	Palgrave v. Wyndham	792
v. Owen	251, 946, 1215, 1217, 1469,	Palin v. Hills	1137, 1144, 1146, 1147
	1471, 1676	Palmer, Appellant	1808
v. Williams	347	v. Alliecock	402, 437
Owen's Trusts, In re	1094	v. Armstrong	1693, 1707
Owens v. Bates	413	v. Cohen	893
v. Cowan	650, 654	v. Cranford	1195, 1196
v. Miss. Soc. of the Meth.		v. Dent	332, 453
Epis. Church	1070, 1077	v. Garrard	1497
Owings v. Beall	1891, 1892	v. Lawson	1958
Owston, In the Goods of	17	v. Litherham	594
Oxenden v. Chichester	1088	v. Litherland	492, 493
Oxendon v. Lord Compton	668	v. Mitchell	1842
Oxenham v. Clapp	267, 272, 1027, 1032	v. Newell	1303
Oxley v. Lane	1088	v. Palmer	117, 650, 817
Oyster v. Oyster	1498	v. Reiffenstein	910
Ozeland v. Pole	481	v. Simmons	108
		v. Stevens	650, 687, 1788
		v. Trevor	1413
		v. Voorhis	1445
		v. Wakefield	1837
		v. Waller	1985
		v. Whitmore	623, 626
		Palmes v. Stephens	968
		Panchard v. Weger	281
		Pankhurst v. Howell	1337
		Pannel v. Fen	940, 948, 1382
		Pannell v. Fen	1852
		v. Hurley	937
		v. Tayler	2023
		v. Taylor	2021
		Panter v. Seaman	1990
		Papillon v. Papillon	1300
		Papworth v. Moore	1397
		Paradise v. Sheppard	1928
		Paramour v. Yardley	1375, 1378, 1381,
			1384
		Pardoe v. Price	1935
		Parfitt v. Hember	1076
		v. Lawless	48



Parham v. Moran	590	Parr, In the Goods of	147
v. Thompson	712	v. Swindles	1081
Parish v. Murphree	754	Parramore v. Taylor	90, 91
v. Parish	40	Parris v. Cobb	650
v. Stone 770, 774, 776, 777, 779, 781		Parrish v. Brooks	539
Park v. Baker	730	Parrott v. Worsfold	1163, 1166
v. Park	1909	Parry v. Ashley	1676
Parker, In the Goods of	104, 118, 548,	v. Harbert	940
	1221, 1123	v. Warrington	1392
v. Ash	2029	Parsons v. Best	1084, 1087
v. Atfield	1956, 1961, 1963,	v. Coke	1085, 1116, 1467
	1964, 1994	v. Copeland	730
v. Baylis	1675, 1939	v. Dunne	1416
v. Biscoe	214	v. Freeman	1701
v. Bogardus	221	v. Hancocke	1978
v. Brooke	62, 749	v. Lanoe	188, 193, 1153, 1199
v. Brown	334, 549	v. Lyman 362, 364, 366, 1292, 1515	
v. Chambers	1376	v. Mayesden	258, 264, 278, 407
v. Constable	678	v. Miller	121
v. Converse	751, 1092, 1094	v. Parsons	121, 809, 1109, 1154,
v. Dee	1033, 1034, 1037, 1038,		2005, 2006
	1980	v. Winslow	1054, 1080, 1088,
v. Fassit	1884		1275, 1277
v. Gainer	998, 999, 1003	Partee v. Caughran	269, 1960
v. Gaines	991	Parten & Baseden's case	277
v. Gillian	936	Partington v. Atty. Gen.	362, 412, 413,
v. Golding	1234, 1235		475, 1515, 1664
v. Hickmoott	380	v. Reynolds	2008
v. Hodgson	1253	Partridge v. Court	880, 881, 882, 1670,
v. Johnson	360		1873, 1874
v. Kett	272, 588	v. Havens	1502
v. Lewis	968, 1788	v. Mitchell	1804, 2027
v. Marchant	1080, 1150, 1178,	v. Partridge	1164, 1298, 1322,
	1182, 1183, 1184, 1188, 1436		1324, 1325
v. Marston	781	v. Pawlet	1473
v. Morley	1356	Partridge's case	389
v. Nickson	174, 1155	Pascatia de Fountain's case	230
v. Nims	1512	Paschal v. Acklin	1070
v. Parker	54, 335, 384, 549, 550,	Paschall v. Hailman	1515
	564, 1086, 1446	v. Hall	753, 758, 759
v. Ringham	1036	Paske v. Ollatt	111, 113
v. Sowerby	1243, 1445, 1447	Passmore v. Passmore	11, 104, 108
v. Tootal	904, 1090, 1211	Patch v. Graves	185
v. Wasley	1081	Pate v. Joe	103
v. Young	537, 1015	Paterson v. Ellis	1106, 1224
Parkes v. Rucker	2029	v. Rolland	1463
Parkham v. Templer	289	v. Scott	1705, 1718, 1720
Parkhill v. Parkhill	204	Patnell v. Brook	593
Parkin v. Bainbridge	111, 143	Paton v. Sheppard	85, 1185
v. Knight	1085, 1110, 1114, 1241	Patrick v. Cowles	292
Parkinson v. Horlock	901	Patten v. Pantan	309
v. Parkinson	74, 122, 1166,	v. Patten	632
	1425	v. Poulton	157
Parkinson's Appeal	658	v. Tallman	87, 346, 347, 352, 549
Trust	1125, 1126, 1127	v. Van Vrauken	632
Parkman v. Bowdoin	1093	Patten's case	1800
v. Welch	754, 1679	Patterson v. Bell	915
Parks v. Parks	1079, 1080, 1502	v. Cobb	1804, 1947
v. Renker	981	v. English	73, 74, 104, 109, 111
v. Rucker	1966	v. Devlin	1176, 1396
Parlet v. Cray	705	v. Hawthorn	1256
Parmiter v. Parmiter	1153, 1199	v. Hickey	157
Parnell, Goods of	66	v. High	410, 412, 413, 1396
v. Dudley	1187	v. McMasters	1513
v. Lyon	1277, 1279	v. Nichol	1844

Patterson v. Patterson	40, 50, 360, 752, 878, 969, 970, 1769, 1788, 1873, 1876	Pearson v. Gamon	2061
v. Swallow	1458	v. Henry	1776, 1784, 1786
Patterson's Estate	969	v. Lane	658
Pattison, Ex parte	1109	v. Pearson	1386, 1387, 1426
v. Pattison	1324, 1513	v. Rutter	1085
Pattson v. Allison	332	v. Stephen	1111, 1211
v. Calhoun	652	v. Wightman	347
v. Patton	1326	Pease v. Allis	87
v. Randall	655	v. Mead	789, 885
v. Thompson	1843	v. Nayler	1961
Patton's Appeal	496, 575, 588	v. Phelps	1894
Paul v. Ball	1190	Peaseley v. Boatright	1785
v. Children	1101	Peaslee v. Kelly	1983, 1984, 1987
v. Compton	1091	Pcat v. Chapman	1216, 1462
v. Nettleford	977	v. Crane	1810, 1820
v. Squib	938	Peay v. Barber	1458
v. Wilkins	659	Pechell v. Jenkinson	68, 132
Paule v. Moodie	282	Peck, In the Goods of	447, 482
Paul v. Simpson	263	v. Botsford	1803, 1947
Paup v. Mingo	1474	v. Brummagin	758
v. Sylvester	1190	v. Cary	26, 37, 40, 96, 360
Pawlett v. Freak	284	v. Harrison	2062
v. Pawlett	1252, 1253	v. Mead	1656
Pawson v. Pawson	1195	v. Parrot	888
Paxton v. Douglas	1036, 1915, 1916, 1917	v. Stevens	1974
Paylor v. Pegg	1083	Peckham's case	593
Payne v. Little	2052	Pedder's Settlement, In re	658
v. Low	1413	Peable v. North Carolina	793
v. Matthews	1743	Peable's Appeal	265, 405, 551, 563, 571, 588, 590
v. Mortimer	1016	Peebles v. Chase	101, 102, 103, 343, 347
v. Payne	212	v. Watts	461
v. Pusey	1049, 1803	Peel v. Catlow	1112, 1211, 1219
v. Smith	1931	Pegg v. Chamberlain	521
v. Trappes	155, 213, 215, 1153	Peiffer v. Lytle	755
v. Wolland	1943	Pelham v. Anderson	1064, 1070
Payne's Will	563	v. Gregory	1088
Peacock v. Albin	1109	v. Newton	392
v. Haven	1876	v. Taylor	1389
v. Lowe	564	Pell v. Ball	464, 1178, 1204, 2039
v. Monk	61, 104, 761	v. Pell	1161
v. Stockford	1085	Pell's Trusts, In re	1211
Peacocke v. Pares	1097	Pelletier v. Saunders	2005
Peake v. Ledger	1911	Pelletreau v. Rathbone	1911
Peale v. White	1193	Pemberton v. Chapman	964
Pearce, In re	1636	v. Coney	239, 250
v. Castrix	443	v. Parke	1093, 1098
v. Edmeades	1464, 1513	v. Parker	1090
v. Gardner	658	v. Pemberton	155
v. Gleaves	1499	v. Topham	2011
v. Smith	950	Pembroke, Lady, In the Goods of	98
v. Vincent	1124	Pembroke v. Friend	1702
Pearley v. Smith	835, 836	Pendleton v. Fay	937
Pearmain v. Twiss	1696	v. Homes	1089
Pearman v. Pearman	1229, 1235, 1243	v. Stuart	1985
Pearn, In the Goods of	79	Penfield v. Thayer	778
Pears v. Wilson	1935	Penhallow v. Dwight	710, 712
Pearse v. Pearse	620	Penley v. Penley	1115
Pearson v. Archdeaken	1342	Pennant v. Kingscote	90, 103
v. Bank of England	812	Pennel v. Weyant	91
v. Cassamajor	1465	Pennell v. Roy	1914, 1915
v. Darrington	1820, 1852, 1860, 1861	Pennell's Appeal	658, 668
v. Dolman	1238	Penniman v. French	1187
		Pennington, In the Goods of	132
		v. Buckley	414, 872

Pennington v. Gettings	774	Perry, In the Goods of	117, 276
v. Healey	1800	Executors of, v. The Queen	623, 1221
Pennock's Estate	108	v. Boileau	750, 1267
Pennsylvania v. Haldiman	1874	v. Carr	731
v. Ravenal	1522	v. De Wolfe	238, 284
Pennsylvania R. R. v. Henderson	797	v. Dyke	453
Penny, In the Goods of	518	v. Gill	650
v. Brice	1882	v. Hale	1253, 1386, 1399, 1693, 1705, 1707, 1708, 1720, 1930
v. Clarke	1463	v. Jenkins	630
v. Penny	2015	v. Knott	2015
v. Turner	1115, 1423	v. Logan	1216
v. Watts	2016, 2018	v. Maxwell	1161, 1191, 1192, 1196, 1297, 1303, 1804
Pennypacker's Appeal	1851	v. Meddowcroft	1440
Penry v. Brown	729	v. Phelps	1035, 1036, 1037, 1915
Penton v. Robart	711, 731, 743, 744, 746	v. Rhodes	1230
Penwill v. Luscombe	2058	v. Whitehead	1338
People v. Conklin	12	v. Wilson	1728
v. Corteis	540	v. Woods	889
v. Erie, Judges of	1953, 1983	v. Wooton	1806
v. Gibbs	1728	Perry's Trusts	552, 1057, 1070, 1076
v. Guild	534	Perryman v. Westwood	1995
v. Keyser	946	Petchett v. Woolston	1992
v. Lambert	371	Peter v. Beverly	655, 951, 954, 1820
v. M'Cann	360	Peter's Appeal	1801
v. Manning	1288	Peterborough, Bishop of, v. Mortlock	1164, 1367
v. Montgomery	360	Peterkin v. Inloes	1887
v. Sanford	346	Peters v. Breckenridge	266
v. White	290, 291, 470, 574, 575	v. Carr	1080
Pepoe v. Swinburn	1005	v. Dipple	1240
Pepper v. Bloomfield	1369	v. Heydenfeldt	1941
Peppercorn v. Wayman	952	v. Peters	549
Percival v. Cooke	1738	v. Public Administrator	448
v. Crispe	1542	Petersen v. Chemical Bank	362, 364, 643, 1515
v. M'Voy	988	Peterson v. Peterson	1452
v. The Queen	607	v. Webb	1119
Percivall v. Crispe	1528, 1529	Petigru v. Ferguson	574, 575
Perfect v. Lord Curzon	1248	Petit v. Smith	1484
Peries v. Aycinena	881, 1874	Petre, Lord, v. Heneage	721, 722
Perin v. Carey	1069, 1070	Petre v. Petre	1361
Perkins v. Cooke	1360	v. State	752
v. Fladgate	1156	Petrie v. Clark	856, 935, 936, 937, 938, 1843
v. Gartnell	2029	v. Hannay	879, 1873
v. George	1088	v. Petrie	1233, 1368
v. Ladd	259, 262	Pett v. Hake	86
v. Little	1445	v. Pett	1512
v. Mathes	1080, 1081, 1088, 1153, 1154, 1161, 1182, 1185, 1189, 1193, 1371, 1440	Pette v. Wilmarth	763
v. Micklethwaite	219, 1217	Pettes v. Bingham	21, 115, 350
v. Moore	534, 1399	Pettengill v. Patterson	891, 1883
v. Perkins	20, 21, 37, 347, 352, 534, 851, 1040, 1675	Pettifer v. James	418, 1535
v. Stone	430	Pettigrew v. Pettigrew	1931
v. Swank	730	Pettinger v. Ambler	204, 1331, 1438
v. Talbot	1399	Pettingill v. Pettingill	529, 536, 574, 1796, 1861, 2028, 2059
v. Walker	204	Petts, In re	1155
Perkinson v. Gilford	1729, 1730	Pettus v. Clawson	1844
Perkins v. Baynton	1433, 1462, 1699, 1846, 1847	Petty v. Styward	651
Perrin v. Blake	1088	v. Willson	1189
v. Lyon	1275	Petway v. Powell	1090
v. Sargent	1931	Pewtner, In the Goods of	97
Perrine v. Applegate	376	Peytoe's case	792, 795
Perrot v. Austin	1727		
v. Perrot	149, 152		

Peyton, In re	1602, 1603	Phillpotts v. James	685
v. Bury	1278	Philpot, In the Goods of	88
v. McDowell	1895	v. Bryant	1777
v. Smith	1847	Philpott v. Bryant	2003
Phaelon v. Houseal	265	v. St. George's Hospital	1067
Pharis v. Leachman	2006	Philps's Will, In re	1109, 1211
Phayre v. Peree	1811	Phiney v. Phiney	1502
Pheasant v. Pheasant	855	Phipps, In the Goods of	117
Pheasant's case	1547	v. Ackers	1231, 1241, 1246
Phelps, In the Goods of	99	v. Addison	1974
v. Culver	809	v. Annealey	1399, 1740
v. Funkhouser	650	v. Earl of Anglesea	166, 865, 1434
v. Hartwell	21	v. Steward	309, 2006
v. Jepson	1462	v. Williams	1246
v. Morrison	754	Phoebe v. Boggress	122
v. Phelps	691, 759	Piatt v. McCulloch	10
v. Pond	658, 662	v. Oliver	666
v. Rice	1876	Pickard v. Bailey	371
v. Robbins	97, 98, 100, 107, 1454	v. Brown	1960
v. Sproul	2014	Pickerell v. Carson	727
Phen's Trusts, In re	318, 414, 464, 1116, 1204, 1464	Pickering v. Coleman	273
Phenix v. Hill	1897	v. Langdon	185, 1080, 1081, 1084, 1085, 1267
Philadelphia v. Davis	1450	v. Pendexter	229
Philadelphia, Mayor of, v. Elliott	1070	v. Pickering	468, 546, 1153, 1163, 1176, 1177, 1391, 1392
v. Girard	1076	v. Shotwell	1070, 1072
Philanthropic Society v. Hobson	2049	v. Stamford	4, 1204, 1491, 1528, 1535, 1862, 2029
v. Kemp	1720	v. Towers	241, 975
Philipps v. Chamberlaine	1087, 1088, 1193	Pickett v. Everett	857
v. Paget	1406	v. Peay	1445
Philips v. Allen	185	v. Stewart	1985
v. Evans	1123	Pickford v. Brown	7, 1530, 2041
v. Philips	642, 1206	Pickup v. Atkinson	1163, 1177
v. Thornton	106	v. Wharton	1895, 1897
Philpison v. Harvey	2057	Pickwick v. Gibbes	1427
Phillipe v. Munnings	1399	Picot v. Armistead	1090
Phillipo v. Munnings	2031	v. Bates	2028
Phillips, Ex parte	668, 2054	Picquet v. Swan	56, 62, 362, 753, 871, 1929
In the Goods of	517, 519	Picquet, Appellant	289, 432, 529, 533, 544
v. Barker	1153	Pidcock v. Potter	33
v. Barry	1693	Pidgeon v. Pitts	1317
v. Beal	1098, 1396, 1804	Pierce v. George	727
v. Bignell	975, 976, 980	v. Lee	665, 1225
v. Biron	591	v. Perks	463
v. Bustard	1853	v. Richardson	1088
v. Chappel	1502	v. Saxton	1896
v. Echard	1022	v. Thornely	856
v. Everard	941, 1762	v. Watkin	390
v. Garth	1079, 1088	Piercy, In the Goods of	18, 93
v. Gutteridge	1360	Pierrepoint v. Edwards	1160, 1321, 1359, 1371
v. Hartley	405	Pierson v. Garnet	1434
v. Johnson	1224	v. Post	705
v. Lee	1011	v. Vickers	1080
v. McLaughlin	1499, 1502	Piety v. Stace	1843, 1847
v. Medbury	1275, 1276, 1277	Piggot's case	231, 482, 491
v. Phillips	311, 662, 666, 958, 1315, 1333, 1335, 1634, 1804, 1819	Piggott v. Green	1282
v. St. Clement's Danes	121	v. Jefferson	2029
v. Serjent	1163	Pigot v. Gascoine's case	231, 479
v. Wooster	754	Pigott v. Bagley	1449
Phillipson v. Gatty	1808, 1820	v. Nower	1038
v. Harvey	976	v. Waller	212
Philliskirk v. Pluckwell	847, 849, 850		

Pigott v. Wilder	8, 1084	Plumer v. Marchant	1017, 1040, 1050,
Pike v. Baker	752		1727
v. Badmering	102, 347	v. Plumer	731
v. Stephenson	889, 1093, 1232	Plummer, In re	1715
v. Walley	1296	v. Brandon	438
Pile v. Slater	1277	v. Whitley	831, 832
Pilkington v. Dalton	822	Plumstead's Appeal	105
Pillsbury v. Hubbard	1895, 1896, 1897	Plunket v. Penson	1681
Pillsworth v. Morse	185	v. Sharpe	981, 983
Pimm v. Insall	1692	Plunkett, Re	1152
Pinbury v. Elkin	887	v. Lewis	2011
Pinchard v. Woods	1797, 1804	Plymouth's, Lord, case	667
Pinchon's case	636, 790, 1010, 1776,	Poag v. Carroll	588
	1930	v. Miller	631
Pinder v. Pinder	1123, 1124	Poang v. Gadsden	1486
Pinkerton v. Sargent	1444	Pockley v. Pockley	1548, 1694
Pinkney v. Singleton	1774	Pocock v. Att. Gen.	1076
Pinkney's Will	8	v. Reddington	1848
Pinkus v. Sturch	1883	Podmore v. Wharton	158, 381
Pinney v. Barnes	916	Pohlman v. Untzellman	11
v. Fellows	758	Poile v. ———	1946
v. McGregory	289, 291, 362, 404,	Pointdexter v. Gibson	1860
	430, 440, 473	Polk v. Ralston	12
v. Pinney	304, 1889	v. Robinson	933
Pinson v. Williams	650	Pollard v. Buttery	1887
Piper v. Goodwin	1771, 1974	v. Doyle	1855
v. Piper	763, 1702, 1704	v. Gerrard	2062
Piper's Estate	1310	v. Merrill	750
Pipon v. Pipon	1515	v. Pollard	1364, 1387, 1425, 1931
v. Wallis	468	v. Scears	1803
Pippin v. Ellison	1178	Pollexfen v. Moore	1719
Pirtle v. Cowan	1377	Polley v. Seymour	658
Pistole v. Street	410, 424	Pollock v. Buie	2060
Pistor v. Dunbar	1817	v. Croft	1278
Pit v. Pidgeon	1290	v. Glassell	77, 95, 107
Pitcher v. Armat	480	v. Learned	1389, 1391, 1395,
v. Tovey	1752		1425
Pitkin v. Pitkin	106, 1909, 2057	Pomeroy v. Bailey	754
Pitt v. Brewster	2013	Pond v. Underwood	591
v. Bridgewater	1781	Ponsford v. Hartley	2009
v. Camelford	1168	Ponton v. Dunn	1178
v. Pitt	693, 971, 1659	Pool, Succession of	980, 986, 1805
v. Smith	41	v. Bott	1257
v. Woodham	978, 981	v. Buffum	75
Pitts v. Hale	786	v. Harrison	1458
v. Singleton	1804, 1819	v. Wishaw	1509
Place, In re	918	Poole v. M'Leod	1740
v. Fagg	740	v. Munday	1795
v. Oldham	1029, 1797	v. Poole	1081
Plant v. Taylor	1676	v. Richardson	346
Platt v. Platt	1333	v. Terry	1254
v. Robins	1953	Pooley v. Ray	1488, 1861
v. Routh	625, 1558, 1566, 1624,	Poor v. Myal	1063, 1265
	1686	Pope v. Delavan	1897, 1983
Player v. Foxhall	1042, 1665	v. Pope	91, 1112
Playfair v. Cooper	2031	v. Robinson	1974
Payne v. Scriven	95	v. Whitcomb	1117
Pleasants v. Glasscock	259, 265	Popham v. Lady Aylesbury	1179
Plenty v. West	163, 166, 1710	Popley v. Popley	1694
Plimpton v. Fuller	1694	Poplin v. Hawke	54, 549, 550
Plott v. Moody	1188	Popple v. Cunison	110
Plowden v. Hyde	204	Porcher v. Daniel	61
Pluck v. Digges	932	Portarlington v. Damer	2011
Plume v. Beale	377, 549, 552	Porter, In the Goods of	190
v. Plume	1301	v. Askew	1512

Porter v. Bank of Rutland	750	Powell v. Morgan	689, 1274
v. Fox	1251	v. Mouchett	1087, 1153
v. Heydock	362, 1515, 1664	v. Myers	1034, 1953
v. Pequonnoc Manuf. Co.	346	v. Powell	153, 1454, 1844, 1853
v. Porter	1502	v. Rees	1732, 1734
v. Smith	219, 1329	v. Slocomb	1458
v. State	534	v. State	346
v. Swetnam	1751	v. Stratford	244
v. Tournay	1181, 1185, 1187, 1396	v. White	534
Porter's Appeal	120, 969, 1108, 1109	Powell's Trust, In re	1188, 1427
Estate	969	Power v. Bailey	61
Trusts, In re	1109, 1207, 1211	v. Fry	1957
Portes v. Cole	1860	v. Hayne	1195
Portland v. Prodggers	63	v. Izod	1957
Portlock v. Gardner	1842, 1846, 2023, 2029	Powerscourt v. Powerscourt	1072
Portmore v. Bunn	811	Powis, In the Goods of	531, 544
Portsmouth v. Shackford	1116, 1117, 1422	v. Andrews	555
Portwood v. Hunter	121	v. Butler	1749
Posey v. Posey	15	Powley v. Newton	881
Post v. Avery	345	Powys v. Mansfield	1153, 1331, 1333, 1335, 1337, 1338
v. Caulk	452	Poyer, In re	365
v. Hover	1088, 1256	Pratt v. Atwood	1514
v. Macall	1693, 1953	v. Bull	295
v. Stevens	2035	v. Felton	1444
Postlethwaite v. Mounsey	2050	v. Flamer	1102, 1108
Potter v. Baker	1194, 1195	v. Harvey	1064
v. Chapman	673	v. Jackson	1181
v. Commissioners of Inland Revenue	1658	v. Leadbetter	1083
v. Cummings	534, 540, 1800	v. Mathew	1098, 1101, 1102, 1119
v. McDowell	754	v. Northam	2023, 2060
v. Potter	212	v. Pratt	1395, 1500, 1501
v. Smith	650	v. Rice	655, 953, 1084
v. Thornton	1055, 1057, 1070	v. Sinclair	1691
v. Titcomb	366, 539, 540, 974, 975, 980, 1310, 1515, 1679	v. Sladden	1475, 1478
v. Van Vracken	1883	v. Stocke	574
v. Webb	549	v. Swaine	631
Potter's Trust, In re	1211	v. Taliaferro	663
Potts v. House	17, 18, 21, 25, 29, 31, 37, 38, 39, 41, 46, 47, 346, 360	Pratte v. Coffman	709
v. Leighton	1852	Pray v. Waterston	6, 221, 375
v. New Jersey Arms &c. Co.	730	Preacher's Aid Society v. Rich	1151
v. Smith	539, 915, 1368	Preece v. Corrie	932
v. Ward	907	Preedy v. Holton	1153
Poulet v. Poulet	1252	Prendergast, Re	117
Poulett v. Wightman	1994, 1997	v. Prendergast	1177
Pountney, In the Goods of	413, 475	Prentice v. Dehon	1861
Powdrell v. Jones	1017	Prentiss v. Prentiss	201
Powel v. Cleaver	1338	Presant v. Goodwin	1288
v. Thompson	287	v. Presant	1456
Powell v. Aiken	1732	Prescott v. Barker	1931
v. Att. Gen.	1070	v. Boucher	931
v. Cooper	1846	v. Carr	1511
v. Evans	1797, 1806, 1815, 1820	v. Knowles	1734
v. Glynn	1106	v. Long	1091
v. Graham	1728, 1771, 1772, 1774, 1776, 1783	v. Moore	1931
v. Hellicar	774, 776	v. Morse	254, 1203, 1225
v. Kellick	931	v. Parker	2057
v. Layton	1730	v. Pitts	461
v. Missions	1111, 1112	v. Prescott	221, 1108, 1204, 1218, 1219, 1458, 1459, 1464
v. Monson & Brimfield Manuf. Co.	730	v. Tarbell	650
		v. Wells	727
		Prescott's Estate	1851
		Preston v. Briggs	728, 730
		v. Day	1946

Preston v. Hoskins	1511	Proctor v. Newhall	1496
v. Jones	1441	v. Wanmaker	575
v. Melville, Lord	432, 1088, 1163, 1394, 1515, 1517	Proctor, The King's, v. Daines	104, 106, 107
Prettyman v. Waples	1887	Prole v. Soady	856
Prevost v. Gratz	1853	v. Wiggins	1895
v. Nichols	999	Propst v. Roseman	1377
Price v. Brayton	707	Prosser v. Wagner	551
v. Clark	584	Proud v. Proud	2031
v. Dewhurst	361, 373, 553, 1515	v. Turner	1500
v. Evans	1926	Proudford v. Hume	2045
v. Gibson	688	Proudley v. Fielder	871
v. Lockley	1108, 1115	Prout v. Roby	750, 1895
v. Maxwell	153, 163, 186, 1058, 1069, 1070, 1072, 1077	Prouty v. McDougall	1895
v. Morgan	1729	Provenchere's Appeal	1081, 1216, 1235
v. Morris	361, 362	Providence Gas Co. v. Thurber	736
v. Moulton	882	Provis v. Reed	360
v. Nesbitt	588, 1374	Prowitt v. Rodman	1098
v. Parker	55, 57, 62, 222, 588	Prowse v. Abingdon	1253, 1256
v. Pickett	834	Pruden v. Pruden	221, 1088
v. Powell	138	Pruen v. Osborne	1112
v. Price	1693	Pruyn v. Brinkerhoff	87, 345
v. Scott	110	Pryor v. Coggin	137
v. Simpson	489	Public Administrator v. Watts	74
v. Strange	1137, 1142, 1496	Puckett v. James	1490
Prichard v. Ames	1420	Puddephatt, In the Goods of	79, 91
v. Prichard	1190	Pue v. Pue	1084
Pride v. Bubb	61	Pugh v. Arton	747
v. Fooks	1078, 1085, 1097, 1815	v. Bergh	221
Pridgen v. Pridgen	94	Pugsley v. Aiken	1872
Pridie v. Field	1650	Pullen v. Bell	728
Priest v. Martin	1974	v. Ready	393
v. Watkins	269, 270	v. Smith	1401
Priestley v. Holgate	1267	Pulman, In the Goods of	251
Priestman v. Tindal	1013	Pulsford v. Hunter	1091, 1160, 1235
Primm v. Stewart	318	Pulney v. Darlington, Lord	661
Primrose v. Bromley	1745	v. Warren	1731, 1734
Prince v. Hasleton	117, 120, 121	Punchard, In the Goods of	242
v. Nicholson	1034	Purchase v. Shallis	1153
v. Rowson	265, 1047, 1960	Purdeu v. Jackson	856
Prince's case	486, 489	Purdon v. Pardon	1881
Princeton v. Adams	1057, 1258, 1288	Purefoy v. Rogers	231, 697, 887
Prindle v. Beveridge	650	Purnell v. Dudley	1080
Pring, Ex parte	663	Purse v. Snaplin	1158, 1164, 1359
v. Pring	1478	Pursel v. Pursel	981
Pringle v. Dunkley	1276	Puryear v. Reese	22
v. M'Pherson	127, 148, 172, 186	Pusey v. Clemson	1310, 1800, 1860
v. Pringle	859	v. Desbouverie	1503, 1504, 1536
Prinsep v. Dyce Sombre	34, 37, 39, 375	v. Pusey	723
Prior v. Henbrow	908, 1748	Putnam v. Johnson	1517
v. Horniblow	2029	v. Osgood	755
v. Talbot	1399, 1796	v. Putnam	1215, 1461, 1464
Pritchard v. Arbouin	1064, 1072	Putnam Free School v. Fisher	655, 951, 954
v. Hicks	551	Pye, Ex parte	1332, 1333, 1337
Pritchard's Trust, In re	1465	Pyke v. Lenny	534
Probate Court v. Kimball	1388, 1664	Pyle v. Pennock	730, 740
v. Merriam	2060	Pym v. Great Northern Rail Co.	797
v. Van Duzen	534, 540	v. Lockyer	1153, 1333
Probert v. Morgan	768	Pynchyn v. Harris	672
Proby v. Landor	1153	Pyne v. Dor	708
Proctor v. Brotherton	965	v. Erle	901
v. Ferebee	663	v. Franklin	1093
v. Johnson	1751	v. Wooland	269, 633
		Pyron v. Mood	1399

Pyot v. Pyot	1119	Ramsbottom v. Backhurst	1892
Pytt v. Fendall	276, 279	Ramsbottom's case	1891
		Ramsdell v. Creasy	650
		v. Ramsdell	1267
Q.		Ramsden v. Hayden	755
		v. Jackson	1953, 1974
Quain's Appeal	1753	Ramsdill v. Wentworth	201
Qualey v. Qualey	[390, 391	Ramsey v. Calcot	52
Quarles v. Capell	1693	v. Ramsey	77, 1853
v. Garnet	1445, 1449	v. Shelmerdine	1216
Queen, The, & Archbishop of Can-		v. Thorngate	810
terbury's case	670	Rancliffe v. Parkins	1442
Queensberry v. Shebbeare	1900	Rand v. Hubbard	302, 362, 404, 432, 629, 630, 943, 1875, 1899, 2003
Queen's College v. Sutton	1151, 1166	Randal v. Payne	1275
Queen's Proctor v. Williams	497	v. Randal	884
Quennell v. Turner	1200, 1710	Randall v. Bookey	1479
Quick v. Ludborrow	1724	v. Hodges	549
v. Quick	360, 482	v. Morgan	752
v. Staines	639, 640	v. Randall	666
Quicke v. Leach	1270	v. Rigby	1727
Quicksall v. Quicksall	1974	v. Russell	1187, 1396, 1656
Quidort v. Pergeaux	556, 1886	v. Shrader	410
Quigley v. The Commonwealth	751	Randebaugh v. Shelly	88
v. Graham	749	Randfield v. Randfield	185, 1054, 1088, 1260, 1261, 1262
Quinby v. Manhattan Cloth & Paper		Randolph v. Randolph	1376
Co.	730, 740	Ranelagh v. Ranelagh	1217
Quincy v. Quincy	1153	Raney v. Heath	1239, 1248, 1259
v. Rogers	185, 186, 1051, 1078, 1081, 1084, 1087, 1153, 1202	Rankin v. Barnard	1309, 1417
Quinn v. Butler	153	v. Harwood	1915
v. Hardenbrook	221, 1088, 1089	v. Rankin	64, 121
v. Moss	1405	v. Weguelin	778
v. Quinn	144, 152	Ranking's Settlement, In re	1462
		Rann v. Hughes	1776, 1777, 1783, 1937
R.		Ranney v. Thomas	1974
		Rapalje v. Norsworthy	1844, 1846, 1847
Raborg v. Hammond	1893	Raphael v. Boehm	1433, 1797, 1850, 2035
Racoullat v. Sansevain	1974	Rapier v. Holland	1876
Radcliffe v. Buckley	1097, 1098	Rapp v. Matthias	650
v. D'Oyly	1735, 1736	Rappelyea v. Russell	969
Radford v. Radford	229, 417, 1106	Rash v. Purnel	91
Radnall, In the Goods of	445	Rashleigh v. Master	658, 836, 838, 2039
Radnor, Earl of, v. Shafto	1088	Ratcliff v. Davies	886
Raffenel, In the Goods of	1519	v. Ratcliff	293
Rafferty v. Mallory	650	Ratcliffe v. Barnes	337
Ragg v. Wells	1980	v. Winch	1806, 1914, 1916, 1917
Raggett v. Clerke	681	Ratcliffe's case	423
Raglan v. Calhoun	534	Rathbun v. Cotton	1853
Ragland v. Huntington	91	Rattoon v. Overacker	269, 271
v. King	574, 588	Raven v. Waite	1425, 1429
Ragsdale v. Booker	74, 104	Ravenscroft v. Frisby	2029, 2031
Raiford v. Raiford	1498	v. Hunter	111, 143, 329
Raikes v. Ward	1126	v. Jones	1333, 133
Railroad Co. v. Joyce	1943	v. Ravenscroft	578
Raine, In the Goods of	12, 331, 337	Rawlins, In the Goods of	88
Rains v. Commissary of Canterbury	575	Rawlings v. Burgis	204
Rainsford v. Taynton	509, 510	v. Jennings	1088, 1182, 1193
Ralston v. Telfair	376	v. M'Mahon	2017
Rambler v. Tryon	17, 39, 40, 346, 359, 360	v. Paty	1887
		v. Powell	1297
Rambo v. Wyatt	474	v. Rawlins	1090
Rammell v. Gillow	1263	Rawlinson v. Burnell	442
Ramsay v. Richardson	856	v. Shaw	287, 957, 1318
Ramsay's Settlement, In re	1588	v. Stone	943



Raworth v. Marriott	111	Reed v. Dickerman	1444, 1445, 1449
Rawson v. Pennsylvania R. R. Co.	758	v. Emory	991
v. Piper	534	v. Gilbert	1966
v. Samuel	1878	v. Hancock	1085
Rawstone v. Parr	1745, 1746	v. Harris	2046
Ray v. Adams	1117	v. Roberts	92, 93
v. Dennis	1876	v. Stewart	1180
v. Doughty	959, 1656, 1820	v. Watson	88, 91
v. Enslin	1086	v. Wiley	1801
v. Hill	75, 77, 93, 98	Reeder v. Holcomb	1519
v. Ray	18, 639, 640	Reel v. Reel	51, 359
v. Simmons	778	Rees, In the Goods of	103
v. Walton	87, 88, 127, 137, 183	v. Keith	859
Raymond v. Broadbelt	1160, 1161, 1166, 1442	v. Morgan	1937, 1953, 1954, 1973
v. De Watteville	363	v. Perrot	678
v. Fitch	806, 807	v. Rees	97
v. Sellick	779	v. Watts	1876
Raynor v. Green	278	Reese v. Hawthorn	121, 122
v. Koehler	257	v. Probate Court Newport	160, 162
v. Mowbray	1116	Reese River Silver Mining Co. v. At-	
v. Pearsall	932, 1804, 1806, 1817, 2029	well	756
Rea v. Rhodes	1374, 1376, 1377	Reeve, In the Goods of	85
Read, In the Goods of	370	v. Atty. Gen.	1076
v. Backhouse	1079	v. Cawley	1940
v. Blunt	1023	v. Denny	572
v. Brookman	1806	Reeves v. Baker	108
v. Duck	1528, 1549	v. Brymer	1098, 1242, 1410
v. Hatch	793	v. Freeling	339, 976, 982
v. Head	1193, 1395	v. Glover	70, 169, 171
v. Howe	428	v. Matthews	634, 653
v. Manning	185	v. Newenham	8
v. Phillips	70	v. Patty	539
v. Snell	769, 1085, 1478	v. Ward	970, 1966, 1972
v. Stedman	1477, 1478	Refeld v. Bellette	1372
v. Strangways	1201	Reffell v. Reffall	358
v. Truelove	278, 1829	Regan, In the Goods of	87
v. Willis	1093	v. Stone	1801
v. Woodward	111	Regina v. Clerk	905
Read's case	257, 258, 261, 1667, 1668	v. Commissioners of Stamps	608, 1582
Reade v. Livingston	752, 754	v. Frances	360
Ready v. Thompson	1946	v. Lords of the Treasury	835
Reagan v. Long	270	Rehden v. Westley	1818
Real v. People	346	Reid, In re	374
Reaves v. Garrell	1449	v. Borland	127, 184, 186
Reay v. Coucher	74	v. Campbell	1444
Rece v. May	1974	v. Kirk	728
Record v. Howard	550, 563	v. Tenterden, Lord	1757, 1759
Rector v. Conway	1804	v. Territt	2011
Reddell v. Dobree	775	Reilly v. Rivett	349
Redding, In the Goods of	77	Reist v. Heilbrenner	786
Redhead v. Welton	2001	Reitz, In the Goods of	438
Redmond v. Burroughs	1120	Remnant v. Bremridge	1755
Ree v. Means	108	v. Hood	1254
Reece v. Steele	1081	Remsen v. Brickerhoff	77, 89
v. Strafford	412	Renaud v. Tourangeau	1267
Reech v. Kennegal	1776, 1780, 1782	Rendall v. Rendall	500
Reed's Will	39	Renn v. Lamon	21
Reed, In the Goods of	439, 544	Rennell v. Bishop of Lincoln	671, 672, 1671
v. Armistead	1946	Reno v. Davis	1081
v. Braithwaite	1086	v. Tyson	534
v. Buckley	1224, 1225, 1243	Renvin v. Watkin	931
v. Commonwealth	534	Repelye v. Repelye	1702
v. Devaynes	1281, 1282, 1284	Repington v. Holland	104, 462

Repington v. Tamworth School	672	Reynolds v. Prosser	1782
Resor v. Resor	758	v. Reynolds	17, 91, 92, 93, 94, 1873
Rewalt v. Ulrich	1153	v. Root	37, 39, 40, 47, 48, 51
Rex v. Aldenham	905	v. Thrupp	549
v. Barnard Castle	645	v. Torin	1447
v. Barnes	1889	v. Walker	1844
v. Berkswell	645	v. Whelan	1199
v. Bettesworth	54, 388, 410, 414, 415, 435, 462, 465, 480, 481, 975	v. White	70, 171
v. Blatch	977	v. Wright	686, 1674
v. Bunny	906	Rheeder v. Owen	1219
v. Buttery	562	Rhenish v. Martin	835
v. Canford Magna	645	Rhoads's Appeal	2060
v. Cator	349	Rhodes v. Haigh	907
v. Chamberlaine	845	v. Muswell Hill Co.	1274
v. Channel	815	v. Rhodes	1082, 1112
v. Chaplin	815, 1765	v. Rudge	1705, 1708, 1709
v. Collectors of Customs	651, 843, 1865	v. Seymour	1894
v. Dickinson	1964	v. Smethurst	1950, 1951
v. Eukring	815	v. Vinson	147, 380, 381
v. Gibson	562	v. Warburton	1912
v. Great Glenn, Inhabitants of	405, 645	Rice, Appellant	1740
v. Haines	1889	v. Adams	730
v. Harwood	1548	v. Efford	1514
v. Hay, Dr.	387, 435, 436, 437, 1204	v. Gordon	935, 1797
v. Hebden	2003	v. Harbeson	1713
v. Hethersal	906	v. Hoffman	749
v. Holland	695	v. Jones	363
v. Horsley	435, 632, 634, 646	v. Oatfield	102, 347
v. Ladock	815	v. Thompson	872
v. Mann	633	Rich v. Chamberlayne	481
v. Netherseal	293	v. Cockell	56, 57, 61, 562, 749, 1443
v. North Curry	645	v. Frank	1753
v. Okeford Fitzpayne	645	v. Rich	1542, 1548
v. Otley	729	v. Rogers	1126
v. Parker	905	v. Waters	1124
v. Peck	815, 1765, 1766	Richard v. Merrill	1288
v. Pett	1765	Richards, In re	1425
v. Portington, Lady	1055, 1058	v. Atty. Gen. of Jamaica	658, 660
v. Raines	236, 237, 282, 387, 1487	v. Ayres	689
v. Simpson	236, 284	v. Baker	1276
v. Stone	303, 645	v. Brown	1354, 1385, 1974
v. Sundrish	645	v. Chave	499
v. Sutton	435, 563, 576	v. Dutch	1153, 1515, 1664
v. Uttoxeter	645	v. Foster	1633
v. Vincent	562	v. Humphreys	1322, 1323, 1328, 1332, 1333, 1336, 1337, 1338
v. Wade	988, 1959	v. Nightingale	1036, 1909
v. Widworthy	645, 646	v. Perkins	2032
v. Wright	42	v. Queen's Proctor	162, 163
Reynard v. Spence	1447, 1449	v. Richards	121, 847, 850, 1158, 3032
Reynel's, Sir George, case	1671	v. Syms	777
Reynell v. Langcastle	1871, 1872	Richardson, In the Goods of	447, 469
Reynish v. Martin	1253, 1277, 1278	Ex parte	1791, 1793
Reynold v. Torrence	361, 1887	v. Bank of England	2044
Reynolds v. Bristow	1058	v. Barry	176
v. Carter	2035	v. Copland	730
v. Curry	206	v. Elphinstone	1298
v. Goodlee	663, 665	v. Gifford	1377
v. Hamilton	1803	v. Greese	1296, 1298, 1299
v. Hurley	206	v. Hazelton	295, 534
v. Kortright	110, 1458	v. Hildreth	650, 687
v. Lansford	753		
v. Pitt	943		

Richardson v. Horton	1013, 1692, 1741, 1746	Riggs v. Myers	1153
v. Jenkins	1012, 1692, 1741, 1791	Right v. Compton	1083, 1088
v. Jones	938	v. Creber	1093
v. Merrill, Estate of	757, 763, 980	v. Price	40
v. N. Y. Central R. R.	796, 797	v. Sidebotham	1088
v. Noyes	1081	Riky v. Kemmis	1829
v. Oakman	534, 540	Riley v. McCord	550
v. Parker	1876	v. Moseley	362, 364
v. Richardson	87, 209, 216, 1463, 1513	v. Riley	361, 362, 432, 752, 753
v. Seise	237	Riley's Appeal	217
v. Sinkler	1097	Rinehart v. Harrison	663
v. Smallwood	756, 1679	v. Rhinehart	956
v. Spencer	938	Ringgold v. Ringgold	1844, 1849
v. Spraag	1085, 1114	Ringrose v. Bramham	1089, 1090
v. Watson	1155	Rioboo, In the Goods of	370
v. Wheatland	1225	Ripley, In the Goods of	360, 379
v. Young	1948	v. Bates	363
Richer, Ex parte	901	v. Moysey	2041
Richfield v. Udall	330	v. Sampson	1798
Richmond v. Nicholson	1734	v. Waterworth	86, 683, 829, 915, 1139, 1673, 1675
v. Vanhook	1185, 1219, 1499	Rippon v. Priest	1889
Richwine v. Heim	856	Rishton v. Cobb	1155, 1266, 1276, 1277
Rick v. Gilson	950	Risley v. Baltinglass	204
Rickabe v. Garwood	1513	Ritchie v. Rees	972, 978, 979
Rickard v. Barrett	1718	Ritter v. Fox	1211
v. Robson	1073	Ritter's Appeal	1038, 1803
Rickards v. Mumford	147, 154, 158	Rivers, Lord, In the Goods of	521
Ricketts v. Ladley	1711	v. Rivers	11
Rickett v. Guillemard	1217, 1219	v. Tripp	1248
Ricketts v. Harling	1395	Rix v. Smith	1861, 2060
v. Turquand	1153, 1202	Roach v. Hammond	1116
v. Weaver	807	v. Hubbard	1820
Rickit, In re	1151	v. Jelks	1844
Rico v. Gualtier	2022	Roadley v. Dixon	1447, 1448
Riddell v. Sutton	1931	Robards v. Jones	1106
Riddle's Estate	1498, 1504	Robards v. Wortham	1693, 1707
Riddick v. Moore	362	Robarts v. Pocock	1160, 1161
Ride v. Ride	238	Robb v. Graham	46, 47
Rider v. Hulse	872	Robbins v. Bates	650
v. Kidder	759	v. Gillett	1872, 1874
v. Legg	342, 352	v. Hayward	534, 1851
v. Wager	1219, 1304, 1321, 1322, 1373, 1548, 1695	Robbins's case	266
Ridges v. Morrison	1289, 1292, 1720	Robert v. Ditmas	1897, 1975
Ridgeway v. Bulkley	1883	v. West	751, 1080
v. Munkittrick	1082, 1112	Roberts, In the Goods of	447
Ridgway v. Clare	1743	v. Brinker	1224, 1225, 1241, 1253
v. Darwin	38	v. Burder	1240
v. Manifold	1441	v. Calvin	533
v. Newstead	1451	v. Collett	1413
v. Woodhouse	1265	v. Cooke	1458
Ridley v. Coleman	121	v. Dauphin Deposit Bank	730
v. Ridley	1300	v. Edwards	1109
Ridout v. Bristow	1777, 1781	v. Higman	1090
v. Plymouth	768, 770	v. Kuffin	1185, 1197
Rife v. Geyer	1266	v. Maddocks	1912
Rigby, Ex parte	946	v. Malin	1252, 1429
v. Strangways	2011	v. Mariett	1930
Rigden v. Vallier	780, 781	v. Ogbourne	1108
Rigg v. Wilton	21, 102	v. Phillips	93, 95
		v. Pocock	1166, 1169, 1371
		v. Roberts	189, 752, 1705, 1711, 2049
		v. Round	143, 145
		v. Swift	1768

## TABLE OF CASES.

2527

Roberts v. Thomas	1823	Robinson v. Schly	74, 104, 105
v. Trawick	25, 26, 37, 346, 359, 360, 1153	v. Shepherd	1513
v. Walker	1421, 1712	v. Smith	1132
v. Watson	1080	v. Stewart	754
v. Weathersford	1320, 1332	v. Sykes	1112
v. Welch	87, 90, 342	v. Talmage	345
v. Wood	1956	v. Taylor	1478
v. Wynn	45	v. Tickell	1404, 1407
Roberts's Appeal	1232, 1235, 1238	v. Ticknell	1127
Will, In re	1519	v. Tonge	1005, 1036, 1037, 1714
Robertson v. Barbour	549	v. Waddelow	1085, 1127
v. Barhom	366	v. Ward	1819
v. Collier	1396	v. Webb	1172
v. Fraser	1462	v. Wheelwright	1267
v. Gaines	302, 654, 655	v. Whitley	1335
v. Johnson	1080, 1085	Robinson's case	122, 123
v. McGeech	281, 283	Estate	1820
v. Phillips	730	Robley v. Robley	1290, 1293
v. Powell	8, 185, 1081	Robson v. —	1784
v. Quiddington	1658	v. Francis	1021
v. Smith	106, 353	v. Roche	349, 350
Robeson v. Kea	74	Roch v. Callen	1292, 2030, 2031
Robey v. Hannon	107	Rochdale Canal Company v. King	2047
Robin's case	257, 495	Roche v. Carey	1849
Robinet's Appeal	1843, 1846, 1853	Rochelle v. Harrison	1679
Robins v. Dolphin	372, 375, 1522	v. Rochelle	69, 74, 122
Robinson, In the Goods of	74, 190, 329, 442	Rochford v. Hackman	1266
v. Adams	21, 30, 34, 47, 346, 359, 360	Rock v. Hardman	1402
v. Addison	811, 1164	v. Leighton	989, 1029, 1953, 1955, 1963, 1984
v. Alexander	2023	Rocke v. Hart	1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1974
v. Allen	550	v. Roche	1238, 1398
v. Bell	266	Rockell v. Youde	71, 358
v. Bishop	1396	Rockham v. Wittkowski	361
v. Bransby	1303	Rockingham, Lord, v. Penrice	823, 826
v. Chamberlayne	71	Rockwell v. Saunders	631
v. Corbett	1960	Rockwood v. Wiggan	771, 783
v. Crandall	362	Rodd v. Lewis	21, 350
v. Cumming	1427, 1850	Roddy v. Fitzgerald	1079, 1080, 1081
v. Davidson	1725	Roderigas v. East River Savings Institution	292, 409, 549, 550, 551, 563, 586, 587, 590
v. Denson	552	Rodhouse v. Mold	1696, 1702
v. Elliott	2042	Rodman v. American Tract Soc.	1154
v. Francis	1022	Rodney v. Rodney	1692
v. Gee	1016, 1802	Rodwell v. Phillips	707
v. Geldard	1160, 1720	Roe v. Grew	1081
v. Governors of the London Hospital	663, 1712	v. Harrison	941
v. Hicks	1081	v. Pattison	1079
v. Hodge	1803, 1946	v. Perryn	1093
v. Hunt	1094, 1195	v. Summerset	629
v. Hutchinson	51, 360	v. Taylor	33, 40, 47
v. Killey	1409	Roffey v. Greenwell	1770
v. King	91	Rogan v. Walker	1258
v. Lane	1777, 1785	Roger v. Meixel	461
v. Lowater	655, 656	Rogers et al. Appellants	11
v. McDonald	1888	Rogers v. Acaster	856
v. McIver	1461, 1712, 1717	v. Ancaster	690
v. Martin	1219	v. Bumpass	857
v. Pett	283, 1853	v. Brickhouse	1109
v. Preston	652	v. Chandler	1969
v. Robinson	658, 1075, 1080, 1081, 1392, 1815, 1817, 1846, 1876	v. Clarke	1165
		v. Danvers	1009, 1013
		v. Diamond	88
		v. Dively	496

Rogers v. Fales	757, 857	Rose, In the Goods of	134
v. Fort	1843	v. Bartlett	252
v. Frank	278, 1830	v. Bowler	1772, 1774, 1938
v. French	1303, 1335	v. Clark	1483
v. Goodenough	182, 186, 224	v. Cunningham	204
v. Hosack	1656	v. Drayton	212
v. Hull	756	v. Gould	1304, 2027
v. James	309, 615	v. Green	307
v. Jones	1441, 2017	v. McHose	1080
v. Law	1274	v. Poulton	913
v. Ludlow	753	v. Quick	104
v. Lyon	360	v. Rose	1458
v. Moore	1911	v. Savory	1935
v. Morrison	575	Roseboom v. Moshier	302
v. Pittis	187, 212, 217	Rosenthal v. Remick	430, 440
v. Price	1789, 1790	v. Renick	1929, 2029
v. Rogers	549, 938, 1049, 1693,	Rosevelt v. Ellithorpe	2038
	1697	Rosewell v. Bennett	1335
v. Ross	2038	Roskelly v. Godolphin	490, 1042, 1043,
v. Smith	1199		1045
v. Soutten	1338, 1428, 2049	Ross, Ex parte	994
v. Stanton	908	In the Goods of	329
v. State	1021	v. Adcock	1736
v. Stevens	549	v. Barclay	461, 654, 953
v. Thomas	1070, 1150, 1190, 1456	v. Borer	1195
v. Walker	346	v. Chester	39
v. Waterhouse	1263	v. Christman	26, 37, 47, 360
v. Weaver	1036	v. Davis	1379
v. White	749	v. Drake	658, 1093
v. Wilson	1804	v. Ewer	56, 103, 415
v. Winton	67	v. Ross	6, 221, 1084, 1112
Rogers's Trusts, In re	837	v. Tremaine	1268
Rogerson, In the Goods of	417, 429, 430,	v. Veal	1153
	448	v. Vertner	6
Rohrer v. Stehman	67, 69, 74, 104	Ross's Trusts, In re	1497
Rolfe v. Budder	62	Rosser, In the Goods of	282
v. Perry	1704	v. Franklin	77, 88
Rolleston v. Dixon	1882, 1946	Rossetter v. Simmonds	67, 1178
Rolls, In the Goods of	143	Rosseter v. Cossit	1798
Rollwagen v. Rollwagen	45	Rotch v. Emerson	1076, 1077, 1078, 1080,
Romaine v. Hendrickson	654, 658		1081, 1084, 1088, 1424
Roman Cath. Asylum v. Evans	1153,	Rothchild v. Rowe	755
	1200, 1201	Rotheram v. Rotheram	1693, 1696
v. Straen	847	Rotherham v. Fanshaw	1405
Rome v. Young	1715	Rothmaler v. Myers	1199
Roney v. Stiltz	6, 221, 1438	Rothwell v. Rothwell	2044
Roof v. Fountain	1395, 1425	Round v. Bell	2031
Roofter v. Rogers	75	Roundel v. Currer	1263
Rook v. Att. Gen.	1120, 1513	Rous v. Noble	237, 465
v. Warth	841, 1677	Rouse v. Jones	1918, 1926
Rookelley v. Godolphin	1042	v. Morris	991
Roofs, In re	1109	Rouse's Estate, In re	1238, 1429
Roome v. Phillips	654, 1086, 1248	Row v. Row	989
v. Roome	1337, 1338	Rowan v. Kirkpatrick	539
Roose v. Mouldsdale	69, 74	v. Woodward	1740
Roosevelt v. Ellithorp	1895	Rowe v. Jackson	1417
v. Fulton	1682	v. Rowe	1177
Root, Matter of	417	v. White	1389, 1396
Re	461	Rowland v. Best	1844
v. Geiger	266	v. Gorsuch	1513
v. Taylor	1876	v. Evans	2017
Roper v. Constable	153	v. Harbaugh	650, 1983
v. Holland	1935	v. Morgan	725
v. Radcliffe	153	v. Tawney	1257
Roper v. Roper	1093 1094, 1364	v. Witherden	1817

## 2529

Rowlands v. Tucker		2036	Rust v. Baker		1211, 1219
Rowley v. Adams	666, 1750, 1751,	1798	v. Witherington		257
v. Eytton		212	Ruston v. Ruston		1693
v. Merlin		132	Rutherford v. Clark		544
Rowney v. Dean		1870	v. Dawson		2043
Rowney's case	713, 718		v. Douglas		500
Rowson v. Copeland		1876	v. Maule	68, 349, 350,	433
v. Harrison		1702	v. Rutherford	77, 89,	96
Rowth v. Howell		1818	Rutland v. Rutland	791, 1509	
Roxburgh v. Lambert		442	Rutledge v. Rutledge		836
Roy v. Gibbon	2044, 2045, 2046		Rutter v. Rutter		1531
v. Segrist	334, 575		Ruttinger v. Temple		1734
Royal Australian Bank, In re		1012	Ryall v. Hannam		1151
Royall v. Johnson		1985	v. Rolle		1178
v. M'Kenzie		1820	v. Ryall		2052
Royce v. Burrell		444	Ryalls v. Bramall		1936
Royer's Appeal		1860	Ryan v. Cowley		1112
Royle v. Hamilton		1098	v. Daniel		104
Rois v. Vilas		932	v. Jones		1946
Royston v. Cordrye		1753	v. Ryan		418
Rubec v. Gardner		12	Ryde, In the Goods of		363
Rubery v. Stevens		1756	Ryder, In the Goods of	245, 1053,	
Rubottom v. Morrow	1806, 1808		v. Bickerton	1809	
Rucker v. Lambdin	86, 87, 88		Ryers v. Wheeler	1153, 1199	
Rudd v. Cabbe		1897	Ryerson v. Ryerson		956
Ruddon v. McDonald		91, 92	Ryland v. Smith		860
Ruddy, In the Goods of	503, 508		Rymes v. Clarkson	68, 111	
Rudge v. Barker		1217	Rynders v. Crane		759
v. Winnall	715, 1187, 1429		Ryves v. Ryves	1463,	
Ruding's Settlement, In re		1153	v. The Duke of Wellington	293	
Rudisell v. Watson		750	S.		
Rudstone v. Anderson	1169, 1329		Saam v. Saam		270
Rudy v. Ulrich	127, 181, 188		Sabin v. Gilman		432
Ruff v. Smith		918	v. Hamilton		1874
Rufford v. Bishop		736	Sabine v. Goat & Church		105
Ruggles v. Sherman	1669, 1806		Sacheverell v. Frogatt		818
Rump v. Greenhill	2008, 2011		Sacia v. Berthoud		936
Rumsey v. Durham		658	Sackvill v. Evans		1755
Runkle v. Gates		137	Sadler v. Evans		591
Ruooff's Appeal	74, 75		v. Hobbs	1822, 1834,	1836
Rush v. Higgs		1915	v. Sadler		550
v. Parnel		87	v. Turner	1161, 1479	
v. Peacock		512	Sadlers', The, case		996
v. Purnell	102, 346		Saffery v. Elgood		674
v. Megee		22	Safford, Ex parte		844
v. Vought		757	v. Drew		797
Rushden's case		818	Saffran v. Kennedy	915, 917	
Rusing v. Rusing		1109	Sage v. Wilcox		1784
Russ v. George		846	Sager v. Warley		2029
Russel v. Haddock		1781	Sagitary v. Hyde		1714
Russel's case	791, 864, 966		Sailor v. Kocher		1153
Russell, In the Goods of	283, 385		Sale v. Bishop of Lichfield		1671
v. Clowes	1475, 1477, 1478,	1480	v. Saunders	690, 1088	
v. Dickson	1290, 1291, 1428		Salem v. Lynn		1519
v. Dixon		751	Salisbury v. Lambe		1263
v. Erwin		900	v. Petty	1114, 1219, 1254, 1259,	
v. Falls	91, 92			1260, 1261	
v. Grinnell		1396	v. Salisbury		1493
v. Hoar	280, 472, 474		Sallerstedt v. Jennings		1079
v. Kellett	1070, 1076		Salmon v. Clagett		936
v. Kitchen		371	v. Green		1240
v. Lane		1801	v. Hays	68, 110, 384, 415	
v. Plaice		934			
v. Prat		972			

Salmon v. Smith	1936, 1945	Satterthwaite v. Powell	414, 464, 1204
v. Stuyvesant	1153	v. Satterthwaite	334
Saloway v. Strawbridge	960	Satterwhite v. Carson	915
Salt v. Chattaway	1664, 1712	Saul v. Wilson	573
Salter v. Cain	915	Saumarez, In the Goods of	130
v. Codbold	1753	Saunders v. Drake	1434
v. Sladen	976	v. Druce	2020
Saltmarsh v. Barrett	1476, 1477, 1478, 1480, 1845	v. Houghton	1396
Saltonstall v. Sanders	1055, 1070, 1076	v. M'Gouran	893
Saltown, Lord, v. Lord Advocate	1588	v. Saunders 158, 181, 957, 1039	
Saltus, Matter of	932, 1797	v. Terrell	756
Salsbury v. Denton	1069, 1076, 1117	v. Vautier	1233, 1238, 1399
Salway v. Salway	1819	v. Wakefield	1784
Salwey v. Salwey	854	Saunders's Trust, In re	1098, 1273
Sammon, In re	1572, 1645	Saunderson v. Nicholls	1971
Sampson v. Brice	1376	v. Stearns	461, 1193, 1396, 1399, 1796
v. Browning	121	Saunderson's Trusts, In re	1235
v. Sampson	1153, 1502	Saurey v. Rumney	1291
v. Shaw	1740	Savage, In the Goods of	154
Samuel v. Jones	2034	v. Blythe	437, 476
v. Morris	267	v. Burnham	1083, 1445
v. Samuel	658	v. Carroll	1094
Samwell v. Wake	1707	v. King	849
Sanborn v. Goodhue	1805	v. Lane	2051
Sand's, Sir George, case	410	v. Merriman	1875
Sandeman v. Mackenzie	1097	v. O'Neil	758
Sanderlin v. Sanderlin	763	Saville v. Blackett	1170
Sanders v. Esterbie	1722	v. Morgan	981
v. Franks	1144	Sawer v. Shute	1420
v. Jones	361, 432	Sawtell, In the Goods of	447
v. Keddall	1649	Sawyer v. Baldwin	2038
v. Miller	2041	v. Birchmore	1357, 2007
v. Wigston	345	v. Dozier	280, 286, 332
Sanderson v. Bayley	1103, 1105	v. Mercer	1030
v. Ralston	1522	v. Sawyer	127, 763, 1185
v. Stodard	989	v. Twiss	731
v. White	1055, 1070	Sawyer's Appeal	302
Sanderson's Trusts, In re	1193	Saxton v. Barksdale	936
Sandford v. Jackson	1445	v. Chamberlain	2060
v. Raikes	569, 1153	Say v. Berwick	41
v. Sandford	185, 360, 759	v. Creed	1124
v. Thompson	1664	Sayer v. Bradley	1114
v. Vaughan	74, 107, 354	v. Sayer	1153, 1172, 1359, 1436
Sandiland v. Innes	1663	Sayles v. Baker	1502
Sandrey v. Michell	534, 541	Sayre v. Helme	362
Sands v. Craft	1801	Sayward v. Sayward	1086
Sanford v. Button	1462	Sebring v. Keith	1873
v. Irby	1088	Scales v. Collins	1720
v. McCreedy	880	Scammell v. Sewell	371
v. Raikes	1088	v. Wilkinson	53, 62, 384
Sanger v. Sanger	1767	Scanlan, In the Goods of	1457
Sankey v. Lilley	352	v. Rubie	1887
Sansbury v. Read	1237	v. Wright	12, 1155
Saph v. Atkinson	68, 348, 349, 350	Scarborough, In the Goods of	1457
Sarell v. Wine	1881	v. Borman	751
Sargent v. Essex Marine Ry. Corp.	812	v. Watkins	1806
v. Sargent	836, 839, 1389, 1391	Scarpellini v. Atcheson	852, 857
v. Towne	1088	Scarsdale, Lord, v. Curzon	725, 726
Sarkie's Appeal	424, 427, 579	Scattergood v. Harrison	1853, 1857
Sarle v. Court of Probate	495, 1267	Scatterwhite v. Littlefield	1860
Sartoris, In the Goods of	481	Scatterwood v. Edge	1271
Sasscer v. Walker	1657, 1669	Scawen v. Blunt	852
v. Young	2029	Scawin v. Watson	1087
Satterfield v. Mayes	1091	Schaffer v. Kettell	1216

Schaffer v. Wadsworth	1080	Scott v. Spashett	1414, 1419
Schaffner v. Grutzmacher	763	v. Stevens	1780
Schafroth v. Ambs	749, 751	v. Tyler	934, 935, 936, 937, 1275
Scheffelin v. Stewart	1844, 1846, 1849, 1851, 1852	v. Wedlake	1943
Schellinger v. Blackerby	1671	v. Wheeler	2044
Schemmer v. North	728	Scotton v. Scotton	1332
Schench v. Legh	1263	Scovil v. Scovil	1946, 1951
Schenck v. Schenck	1822	Scribner v. Crane	101, 346, 352
Schenk v. Agnew	1260	Scriven v. Tapley	1417
Schenkl v. Dana	652	Scrubby v. Fordham	26, 42, 133, 143, 159, 381
Schermerhorn v. Barhydt	1693	Scruggs v. Driver	949
v. Negus	1266	Scudamore v. Hearn	1026, 1029
Schlecht's Estate	594	Scudder v. Varnasdale	662, 1109, 1513
Schloss v. Stiebel	1156	Scul v. Vaugine	1511
Schmidt v. Crafts	1876	Scully v. Delany	1828
Scholfield v. Eichelberger	1658	Scurfield v. Howes	1240, 1833
Schofield v. Corbett	1876	Scurra v. Merciall	2001
v. Heap	1334, 1335	Scurrah v. Scurrah	979
Scholey v. Walton	1894, 1947	Scurry v. Morse	2013
School Directors v. James	1522	Seabrook v. Seabrook	1108, 1454
Schoolfield v. Rudd	1675	v. Williams	629
Schoonmaker v. Van Wyke	1843	Seaburn v. Seaburn	1070
Schoppert v. Gillam	1078, 1153	Seabury v. Bowen	991
Schott's Estate	1080, 1081	Seager v. Bowle	723
Schrivver v. Cobean	1324	Seale v. Buller	1357
Schroder v. Schroder	1444, 1450	Seaman's Friend Society v. Hopper	30, 31, 34, 39, 360
Schroeder's Estate	1974	Seaman v. Everard	1805
Schull v. Murray	53	v. Woods	1250
Schultz v. Dambmann	366	Sean v. Woods	1443
v. Pulver	364, 981, 1806	Searing v. Searing	847
v. Schultz	379	Searle v. Lane	997, 998, 1005, 1030, 1032
Schumaker v. Schmidt	11, 12, 124	v. Law	1770
Schwartz's Estate	817, 820	Searles v. Scott	539
Scogin v. Stacy	753	Sears v. Boston	1517, 1519
Score v. Ford	2045, 2046, 2047	v. Dillingham	87, 103, 280, 345, 346, 347, 352
Scorell v. Boxall	709	v. Putnam	1221, 1250, 1265, 1266
Scot v. Bell	755	v. Russell	1124, 1265
Scott, Re	1800	Searson v. Robinson	631
Estate of	1860	Seaton v. Sturch	375
v. Atchison	925	Seaver v. Lewis	1693, 1694, 1707
v. Becher	236	Sebastin, Estate of	1256
v. Beecher	1697	Sebring v. Keith	881, 1874
v. Bevan	1434	Secar v. Atkinson	1772
v. Briant	381, 1891	Seccombe v. Evans	1085
v. Calvit	334, 549	Sechrest v. Edwards	39, 47
v. Fox	254, 478	Second Cong. Soc. v. First Cong. Soc.	1076, 1088, 1153, 1258
v. Governor, The	985	Second Nat. Bank v. Williams	779
v. Hancock	1802, 1803	Secondo Bosio, Estate of	1806, 1808
v. Harwood	1090	Security Ins. Co. v. Taylor	1938
v. Izon	1791	Sedgwick v. Minot	1054
v. Jones	2026, 2028	Seekamp v. Hammer	1511
v. Josselyn	1267	Seeman v. Seeman	43
v. Mitchell	1974	Seers v. Hind	941, 1844, 2035
v. Monell	654	Sefton v. Hopwood	40, 47
v. Moore	1124	Segrave v. Kirwan	112, 552
v. Nelson	1097, 1098	Seguine v. Seguine	47, 49, 88, 96
v. Perkins	1396	Seibert's Appeal	1224, 1230, 1425, 1429
v. Perley	692	Seifferth v. Badham	1124
v. Ramsay	999	Seip v. Drach	1791, 1872, 1938
v. Rhodes	69, 70, 85	Selby v. Bowie	1804, 1820
v. Salmond	1361	v. Selby	1714, 1715, 1719
v. Salmoud	1091		
v. Scarborough, Lord	153, 1093, 1717		
v. Scott	758		
v. Simes			



Selden v. Coalter	74, 77	Shattock v. Shattock	1681, 1686
Selden v. King	1088	Shattuck v. Steadman	1224, 1225, 1230, 1232
Seley v. Wood	1478, 1480	Shauffer v. Stoever	588
Sellers v. Garnet	161	Shaw, Ex parte	2054
Sellers's Appeal	2060	In the Goods of	157, 159
Selsey v. Lord Lake	1157	v. Berry	946
Selwood v. Mildmay	1153, 1200	v. Coble	1810
Selwyn, In the Goods of	414, 464, 1204	v. Cutteris	65
Semine v. Semine	588, 589	v. Gookin	1876
Semmes v. Magruder	1803	v. Gould	1520
v. Semmes	148, 183, 184	v. M'Cameron	1955
Senior v. Ward	797	v. M'Mahon	1216
Serle v. Bradshaw	637, 1942	v. Marshall	375
v. St. Eloy	1094	v. Neville	91
v. Waterworth	258, 262, 1777	v. Paine	1796
Serocold v. Hemming	123, 206, 212, 217	v. Partridge	854
Sessions v. Moseley	5, 777, 781, 782	v. Pichall	1063
Sessoms v. Sessoms	1085, 1159, 1161	v. Shaw	1445, 1519
Sethe v. Sethe	489	v. Spencer	935, 937
Sever v. Russell	549, 2060	v. Storton	290
Severs v. Severs	2050	v. Thorne	147
Servier v. Brown	1267	Shawe v. Cunliffe	1084
Sewall v. Sparrow	1876	Shay v. Sessaman	856
Sewell's Estate, In re	1176	Shea v. Boschetti	131, 331, 568
Seymour v. Beach	1889, 1892	Shearman v. Angel	1094
v. Butler	1425	v. Pike	117
v. Nosworthy	165	Shears v. Rogers	1679
v. Seymour	2006	Sheath v. York	196
v. Tresilian	766	Sheddon v. Goodrich	1443
v. Van Wyck	89	Shee v. French	1679, 1683
Seymour's, Sir Edward, case	154	v. Hale	1266
Trust	1135	Sheefs v. Peabody	915
Shackleford v. Bunyan	539, 961	Sheen v. Rickie	727
Shackleton v. Barrymore	983	Sheet's Estate	1399
Shadbolt v. Waugh	353, 354	Sheets v. Grubbs	1097
v. Woodfall	1348, 1378	v. Pabody	881
Shadforth v. Temple	659	Sheffield v. Buckinghamshire	558
Shaffer v. Corbet	87	v. Coventry, Lord	1333, 1435
v. Grimes	793, 796, 1734	v. Kennett	1263
Shaffer's Estate	1806	v. Orrery	1082
Shafto v. Powell	1005	Sheiff v. Axe	1855
v. Shafto	1701	Shelby v. Shelby	6, 1178, 1188, 1497
Shaftsbury v. Shaftsbury	1172, 1325, 1327, 1328	Sheldon v. Baker	1869
Shaftesbury v. Marlborough	1295, 1651	v. Court of Probate of John-	574
Shailer v. Bumstead	20, 39, 51, 359, 360	ton	1057
Shallcross v. Palmer	130, 359	v. Easton	1931
v. Wright	658, 662, 1712, 1769, 1802	v. Purple	97, 104, 1621
Shaller v. Brand	352	v. Sheldon	687
Shand v. Kidd	1085, 1219, 1513	v. Smith	413, 416
v. Rogers	1086	v. Wright	1088
Shanley v. Baker	1084	Shell v. Pattison	1104
Shannon v. Dinkins	1965	Shelley v. Bryer	725
Sharland v. Mildon	259, 269	v. Shelley	969, 1081, 1966, 1971
Sharman, In the Goods of	88, 377, 1054, 1185	Shelly's case	540
Sharp v. Farmer	650	v. Cureton	938, 951, 953, 954
v. Sharp	74, 350	Shephard v. Rhodes	430, 588
Sharpe v. Crispin	1517, 1520	Shepherd v. Ingram	1430
v. Scarborough, Lord	1681, 1682, 1714	v. McClain	1895
Sharpley v. Forwood	666	v. Moulds	1815
Sharpsteen v. Tillou	1256	v. Nabors	1108
Shatter v. Friend	343	v. Nottedge	108, 1476
		v. Shepherd	197
		v. Shorthose	386

Shepherd v. Shorthouse	1889	Shomo's Appeal	426
Shepherdson v. Dale	1463	Shoonmaker v. De Witt	1785
Sheppard v. Duke	2029	Shore v. Weekly	1192
v. Nabors	104	v. Wilson 371, 1057, 1058, 1153, 1155	
Sheppard's Trust, In re	1219, 1270	Shorer v. Shorer	658
Sherard v. Sherard	192	Short v. Coffin	1974
Sherburn v. Goodwin	935, 937, 1871	v. M'Carthy	1881
Sherer v. Bishop	8, 1089	v. Smith	143, 152
Shergold v. Boone	1219, 1269	Shotwell v. Mott	1070, 1071
Sherman v. Angel 1093, 1099, 1101, 1860		v. Sedam	1449
v. Chace	2060	Shove v. Pinke	204
v. Christian	1874	Shovelton v. Shovelton	1126
v. Collins	1254	Showers v. Showers	74, 75
v. Newton	1444	Shown v. Barr	1943
v. Reigart	856	Shreve v. Joyce	946, 947, 1947
Sherrard v. Sherrard	836, 838	v. Shreve	1704
Sherratt v. Bentley	1084, 1085, 1088	v. Thompson	946
Sherrington v. Yates	849, 852	Shrewsbury v. Hornby	1057
Sherwood, In re	1854	Shriener's Appeal	1081, 1084, 1085
v. American Bible So-		Shrimpton v. Shrimpton	1224, 1234
ciety	1052	Shropshire v. Reno	33, 40
v. Johnson	991, 997	v. Withers	416
v. Sanderson	38	Shudall v. Jekyll	1338
v. Sherwood	1079	Shuler v. Millsaps	800, 1724
v. Smith	1410, 1502	Shull v. Johnson	1104, 1513
v. Wooster	1515	Shulters v. Johnson	1217
Shewell v. Dwaris	750	Shultz's case	991
Shewen v. Vanderhorst	1049, 1303, 2007	Shultz v. Pulver	1515
Shield v. Shield	102	Shum v. Hobbs	1232
Shields v. Anderson	261, 269	Shumway v. Holbrook	293, 320, 549
v. Shields	237	Shunk's Appeal	1853
v. Smith	654	Shurtleff v. Francis	775, 1770
Shillaber v. Wyman	270	Shuttleworth, In the Goods of	378
Shilling, In the Goods of	1204	v. Garnet	841
Shilton's Estate	238	v. Greaves 862, 1163, 1206,	
case	449	v. Howarth	2041
Shindel's Appeal	2060	v. Noyes	846, 849
Shine v. Redwine	650, 938	Sibbering v. Balcarras	20, 23
Shingler v. Pemberton	104, 107	Sibley v. Cook	1204, 1207, 1209
Shinkle v. Crock	75	v. Perry	1075, 1084, 1112, 1153,
Shinn v. Motley	1092, 1093	1164	
Shipbrook v. Hinchinbrook	1820, 1824,	Siboni v. Kirkman	1724
	1835	Sibthorp v. Moxom	1205, 1373
Shipley's, Mary, case	1980	Sibthorpe, In the Goods of	97
Shipman v. Thompson	1871, 1876	Sidebotham v. Watson	1168
Shippen v. Clapp	654	Sidebottom v. Sidebottom	1086
Shipperdson v. Tower	1084	Sidle v. Anderson	1776
Shipton v. Rawlins	524, 2015	Siebert v. True	1887
Shires v. Glascock	91, 92	Siglar v. Haywood	1975
Shirley, In the Goods of	203	v. Van Piper	763
v. Ferrers, Lord	1631	Sigourney v. Munn	666
v. Healds	302, 629, 650	v. Sibley	292, 549, 563, 575
v. Shattuck	1853	v. Wetherell	1310
v. Shirley	751	Sikes v. Lister	660
v. Whitehead	771, 779	v. Smith	71
Shirt v. Westby	1366, 1424	Silcox v. Bell	422, 1105
Shiver v. Block	1504	v. Nelson	763
v. Shiver	1500	Silk v. Prime	1684
Shnell v. Tyrrell	1273	Silkknitter's Appeal	1193
Shoalbred v. Drayton	687	Sill v. McKnight	235
Shoenberger v. Lancaster Savings		Sillick v. Booth	318, 464, 1204, 1217,
Institution	2003	1257	
Shofner v. Shofner	712	Silsby v. Bullock	53
Sholl v. Sholl	1299	Silver v. Stein	2017, 2052
Shoman v. Allen	909, 910		

Simmonds, In the Goods of	90	Skidmore v. Romaine	1693
v. Cocks	1231, 1246, 1259	Skillman v. Skillman	650, 758
Simmons v. Augustin	105	Skinner v. Frierson	1980
v. Gooding	1120	v. Ogle	212, 214, 215, 223, 1223
v. Guttridge	1315, 1316	v. Skinner	2029
v. Rose	1712	v. Sweet	2053
v. Rudall	130	v. Wynne	1500
v. Simmons	160, 212, 1107	Skinner's Trusts, In re	1288
v. Thomas	752, 758	Appeal	856
v. Tongue	1743	Skipper v. King	1249
v. Vallance	1164, 1165, 1359	Skipwith v. Cabell	1153
Simms v. Garratt	1108	Skirving v. Williams	1163, 1177
Simon v. Albright	913	Skottime v. Young	1551
v. Barber	1076	Skrine v. Simmons	935
Simonds v. Carter	1740	Skrymsher v. Northcote	1460
v. Simonds	1266	Slade v. Fooks	1105
Simons v. Milman	309, 405, 1911	v. Friend	133, 211
Simonton v. M'Lain	261	v. Milner	1260
Simpkins v. Powers	540	v. Morley	790, 1931
Simpson, Re	135	v. Parr	1467
v. Ashworth	658	v. Slade	1844
v. Chapman	1842	v. Washburn	496
v. Earles	1163	Slade's case	792, 878
v. Graves	756	Slaney v. Slaney	1261
v. Gutteridge	946, 947	Slanning v. Style	237, 760, 1023, 1181, 1186, 1396, 1402
v. Lester	1163	Slater v. Alvey	300
v. Moore	1395	v. Dangerfield	1112
v. Morley	932, 1004	v. Lawson	1896, 1948
v. Patten	1777	v. May	491, 512
v. Simpson	1112	v. Nason	12
v. Spence	1090, 1091	v. Wheeler	1740, 1744
v. Vickers	1268	Slatter v. Carroll	1664
v. Young	1740	v. Meek	763
Simpson's Appeal	302	v. Noton	1329
Sims v. Boynton	876, 1887	v. Slatter	1490
v. Conger	1261	Slaughter v. Froman	534, 915
v. Doughty	1084, 1085	v. Slaughter	1396
v. Ricketts	754, 758, 759	Slauter v. Chenowith	362, 883, 1871, 1929
v. Sims	1303, 1332, 1693, 1708, 1861	Slaymaker v. Bank of Gettysburg	853
v. Smith	1230	Sleap v. Newman	1760
v. Stilwell	1774	Sleech v. Torington	1164, 1165, 1168, 1324, 1371, 1414, 1423
Sinclair, In the Goods of	97	Sleech's case	1743
v. Hone	188	Sleeman v. Wilson	66
Sindle v. Kiersted	1974	Sleeper v. Paige	1517, 1519
Sing v. Leslie	1095	Sleight v. Lawson	2006
Singleton v. Bremar	106	Sleighter v. Harrington	1782
v. Cotton	774	Slingsby v. Grainger	1199
v. Singleton	549, 710	Sloan v. Hause	1086
Sinkler v. Sinkler	1458, 1498	v. Johnson	915
Sinnett v. Herbert	1062, 1066, 1068	v. Maxwell	12, 20, 21, 33, 39, 40, 549
Sirdefield v. Price	2027	v. Webb	763
Sisson v. Giles	658	Slocumb v. Sanford	1663
v. Seabury	1079, 1094	v. Slocumb	117, 123, 374
v. Shaw	1410, 1411	Smale v. Graves	1658
Siter's Accounts	691, 694, 856	Small v. Allen	1153
Stilwell v. Bernard	1227, 1392, 1401, 1432	v. Commonwealth	470, 529, 532
Skarf v. Soulby	754	v. Haskins	574
Skeffington v. Budd	918	v. Small	44, 46, 47, 50, 88
v. White	428, 444, 525	v. Wing	1861
v. Whitehurst	648, 918	Small's Estate, Re	461, 539, 916
Skelton v. Hawling	1987, 1989	Smalley v. Trammel	1876
Skerrett v. Burd	204		
Skey v. Barnes	1244, 1245, 1273, 1431		

Smallman v. Goolden	1437	Smith v. Field	1424, 1428
Smallwood v. Brickhouse	15	v. First Presbyterian Church	
v. Bishop of Coventry	792, 878	in Bloomsbury	662, 1151
v. Bishop of Lichfield	673, 1671	v. Fitzgerald	1160, 1169, 1458
Smart v. Clark	1086, 1088, 1260	v. Forty	1947
v. King	1090	v. Goodacre	115
v. Prujean	98, 1056	v. Gould	1441
Smartt, In the Goods of	97	v. Granberry	650
Smedley v. Philpot	1669, 1677	v. Guild	432
v. Varley	1843	v. Guy	2010
Smee v. Baines	1306	v. Hall	1951
v. Bryer	78	v. Harmon	898, 1996, 1997
Smelie v. Reynolds	45	v. Harrington	1070
Smell v. Dee	1230	v. Harris	82
Smethurst v. Tomlin	235	v. Haskins	647
Smiley v. Gambill	137	v. Hibberts	660
v. Smiley	752	v. Higbee	689
Smite v. Spilsbury	2008	v. Horsfall	1112
Smith, In the Goods of	55, 61, 97, 188, 256, 318, 331, 370, 377, 447, 759, 1456	v. Hurd	1669, 1806
v. Acton	2031	v. Ide	1784
v. Allen	759	v. Jersey	1153
v. Anderson	1646	v. Jewett	1182, 1185
v. Ashurst	1090, 1513	v. Johnson	1107
v. Barneby	1136	v. Jones	6, 87, 103, 221, 346, 347, 416
v. Barrow	1873	v. Kearney	1039
v. Bell	6, 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1084, 1153	v. Kennard	1849
v. Bland	820	v. Kittredge	771, 779
v. Bonsall	549	v. Kniskern	1445
v. Boyer	1876	v. Knowlton	318
v. Britton	898	v. Lambert	1454, 1931, 2060, 2062
v. Bustard	822	v. Lampton	1160, 1170, 1844
v. Butler	1188	v. Lansing	1843
v. Campbell	1118, 1120, 1152	v. Leigh	955
v. Carere	539	v. Lidiard	1104
v. Carroll	730	v. Lyne	1297
v. Casen	782	v. Mabry	362
v. Chambers	1852	v. McConnell	650, 654
v. Cherrill	754	v. McCrary	654, 662, 663
v. Claxton	665	v. Marshall	1297
v. Clever	1068	v. Matthews	1415
v. Coggans	1975, 1979	v. Milles	293
v. Commonwealth	20, 533	v. Moore	312, 959, 1428
v. Coney	1152	v. Morehead	1522
v. Cowdery	1279	v. Morgan	1894
v. Crofts	246	v. Munroe	438
v. Croom	1517, 1519, 1522	v. O'Grady	1901
v. Cunningham	147	v. Oliver	1075, 1206, 1219
v. Davies	969, 1966, 1967	v. Oram	975
v. Davis	1190	v. Osborne	1467
v. Day	1350	v. Palmer	1123, 1183, 1232, 1243, 1513
v. Dearmer	214	v. Pearce	915
v. Dolby	75, 89, 115, 127, 147, 350	v. Pepper	1211, 1219
v. Downey	774, 780, 1034	v. Porter	263
v. Drake	650, 938	v. Price	976
v. Dyer	687	v. Proctor	1939
v. Edrington	6, 221	v. Pugh	1163
v. Evans	77	v. Pybus	1085, 1217
v. Everett	946, 950, 1658	v. Rarham	1396
v. Eyles	998, 1005	v. Remington	2029
v. Fagan	534	v. Rice	549, 563
v. Fellows	1534	v. Sherman	440, 444, 796, 800, 1734
		v. Simonds	805

Smith v. Smith	51, 89, 289, 340, 413, 776, 956, 1124, 1151, 1153, 1160, 1211, 1219, 1250, 1253, 1297, 1299, 1304, 1306, 1344, 1345, 1414, 1441, 1501, 1502, 1663, 1702, 1821, 1839, 1867, 2003, 2028, 2033, 2038	Snook v. Mattock	1993
v. Spencer	1263	v. Watts	37
v. Spilsbury	2008	Snow v. Booth	2031
v. Starr	658	v. Foley	1296
v. Steele	379	v. Moore	1153
v. Stewart	1261, 1263	v. Snow	1224, 1230
v. Stockbridge	461	v. Strutt	976
v. Streatfield	1088	v. Teed	1120, 1125
v. Sweet	53, 54	Snowball v. Proctor	1093
v. Tarlton	666	Snowhill v. Snowhill	216, 663, 847
v. Tateham	1954, 1976, 1981, 1982, 1994	Snyder v. Bull	87
v. Tebbitt	33, 40	v. Snyder	751
v. Thurman	122	Soady v. Turnbull	1840
v. Tracey	422, 642, 1496	Soam v. Bowden	1765
v. Union Bank	990, 1515, 1664	Soar v. Dolman	147
v. Vauger Colgay	790	Socket v. Wray	61
v. Wait	147	Sohier v. Eldredge	820, 839, 1391
v. Webb	362, 364, 1929	v. Massachusetts General Hos- pital	1076
v. Wheeler	638	v. St. Paul's Church	1072
v. Whiting	946, 947	Soldini v. Hyams	1657
v. Wilson	1155	Sollie v. Croft	1806
v. Wings	461	Sollers v. Lawrence	1721, 1736
v. Wiseman	1053	Solliday v. Bissey	877, 1931, 1933
v. Yell	754	Solomon v. Wixon	275
v. Young	238, 424, 449	Somerset, In the Goods of v. Somerset	520 1796
v. Zaner	12	Somerville v. Somerville	371, 1515, 1518, 1531
Smith's Appeal	1088, 1106, 1853	Son v. Miner	946
Estate	1803	Sonde's Will	1263
Trusts, In re	1269	Sopwith v. Mangham	1449
Will, In re	117, 1235	Sorrell v. Carpenter	1032
Smithby v. Hinton	2013	v. Ham	654
Smithdale v. Smith	117	Sorresby v. Hollins	1060, 1068, 1071
Smith's Will	1643	Sorry v. Bright	1454
Smithers v. Willock	1273	Sortore v. Scott	2014
Smithers v. Miller	918	Sorver v. Berndt	1097, 1098
Smithley v. Cholmeley	303	Sotheron, In the Goods of	98
Smithwick v. Ellison	731	Soto v. Kroder	820
v. Jordan	147	Souler v. Plowright	115
Smock v. Smock	138, 157	South v. Bloxham	1713
Smout v. Ilbery	1768	v. Hay	1490
Smyth, Ex parte	835	v. Searle	1112
v. Smyth	495	v. Williams	1205, 1223
Snake v. Norgate	899	South Sydenham v. Lamerton	645
v. Webb	443, 467	Southall v. Jones	105
Snedeker v. Warring	728, 730, 740	v. Taylor	1806
Sneed v. Coleman	1783	Southard v. Potts	1981
v. Ewing	549	Southby v. Stonehouse	1062
v. Hooper	650	Southcot v. Watson	1474, 1479
Sneesby v. Thorne	947	Southcote v. Hoare	843
Snelgrove v. Snelgrove	1449, 1499	Southerland v. Southerland	752, 774
Snellgrove v. Bailly	771, 776	Southerlin v. M'Kinney	21
Snelling v. Norton	403, 1025	Southern v. Bellasis	826
Snelling's case	1025, 1930	v. Woollaston	1243
Snelson v. Corbett	767, 1696	Southgate v. Crowley	1895
Snider v. Cray	1734	Southmead, In the Goods of	448, 462, 517
Snively v. Stover	1084	South New Market Meth. Sem., Trus- tees of, v. Peaslee	1088, 1153, 1154, 1199
Snodgrass v. Andrews	981	Southouse v. Bate	1194
v. Cabiness	630	South Western R. R. Co. v. Thomas- ton	1656
		Souzer v. De Meyer	2029
		Soverhill v. Suydam	1310

Sowell v. Sowell	582	Springett v. Dashwood	2035
Sowerby, In the Goods of	412	v. Jennings	1457
Sowerby's Trust, In re	1206, 1634	Springfield v. Worcester	894
Spackman v. Holland	1861	Springs v. Irwin	461, 575
v. Timbrell	1691	Springsteen v. Sampson	969
Spalding v. Spalding	1088	Sproule v. Prior	1719, 1720
Spangler's Estate	1425	Sprowl's case	1819
Sparhawk v. Allen	820	Spruil v. Spruil	1374
v. Buell	529, 1405, 1820, 1821, 1844, 2029, 2060	Spurgen v. Robinet	1889
v. Sparhawk	87	Spurr v. Trimble	318
Sparke, In the Goods of	575	Spurrell v. Spurrell	1465
v. Denne	464	Sparstow v. Prince	791
v. Purnell	1085	Spurway v. Glynn	1423, 1711
v. Sparke	698, 699, 700	Spyer v. Hyatt	1692
Sparkes v. Crofts	490, 492, 494	Squib v. Wyn	696, 872, 1489
v. Restal	1670	Squires v. Ashford	1414
Sparks v. State Bank	730	v. Old	1377
v. White	1929	St. Albans, Duke of, v. Beauclerk	1291
Sparling v. Parker	1061, 1093, 1392	St. Aubyn v. St. Aubyn	831, 832
Sparrow, In the Goods of	86	St. Helen's, Lord, v. Lady Exeter	213, 353
v. Josselyn	1160, 1169	St. John v. Bawdripp	1722
Speakman v. Speakman	1088, 1115	v. Boughton	2029, 2031
Spear v. Hart	836	v. Winton	1088
v. Tinkham	1176, 1396, 1847, 1871	St. John's Estate	999
Speed v. Nelson	658	St. Jurgo v. Dunscomb	438
Speelman v. Culbertson	933	St. Leger's Appeal	33, 40, 48
Spence v. Albert	1896	St. Luke's Home v. Assoc. for Indi- gent Females	1153
v. Robins	1224	Staats v. Bergen	1846
Spence's case	1792	Stables v. Sargon	1153
Spencer v. Cahoon	590	Stacey v. Elph	280
v. Higgins	1153	Stackhouse v. Horton	47, 49, 360
v. Rutledge	915	v. Houton	346
v. Spencer	1097, 1327	Stackpole, In the Goods of	531
v. Ward	1156	v. Beaumont	1275
Spencer's case	714, 716, 1883, 1951	v. Howell	1281, 1282
Sperling, In the Goods of	95	v. Stackpole	968, 971, 1851, 1860
v. Toll	658	Stacy v. Elph	1830
Sperry, Estate of	1680	v. Thrasher	362, 461, 899, 1929
Spicer v. James	1046	Stafford v. Buckley	809, 810, 1082
Spiers v. Morris	2003	v. Fiddon	1844
Spindler v. Atkinson	1843	v. Horton	1164
Spink v. Hare	1866	Stag v. Punter	969
Spinks v. Robins	1335, 1337	Stagg v. Green	302
Spire v. Smith	1290, 1293	v. Jackson	658, 1657
Spiret v. Willows	750, 754, 1414, 1679	Staggs v. Ferguson	792
Spirt v. Bence	1083, 1088	Stahlschmidt v. Lett	1049, 1802
Spode v. Smith	1430	Staines v. Morris	1751
Spong v. Spong	1171, 1713	v. Stewart	360
Spooner v. Brewster	723	Stainton, In the Goods of	426
v. Lovejoy	1078	v. The Carron Company	236, 2020, 2021
Spooner's Trust	1459	Stair v. Macgill	1392
Sprackling v. Rainier	1090	v. York National Bank	539
Spraddling v. Pippin	430	Stairley v. Rabe	236, 2032
Spragge v. Stone	193	Stall v. Elliott	747
Spratley v. Wilson	774	Stallings v. Stallings	1498
Spratt v. Harris	251, 364, 382, 620	Stamford Society, Ex parte	994, 995
Spread v. Morgan	1449	Stammers v. Halliley	1369
Sprigg v. Weems	1178	Stamper v. Barker	871
Sprigge v. Sprigge	147, 157	v. Hooks	122
Spring v. Biles	1117	Stancell v. Kenan	40
v. Parkman	293	Standen v. Standen	1152, 1707
Springer v. Arundell	751	Standenmeier v. Williamson	360
v. Congleton	1216		
Springer's Appeal	1502, 1670		

Standley's Estate, In re	1099	State v. Ritter	534
Stanfield v. Neill	1946	v. Robertson	847
Stanford's case	261, 1880	v. Rogers	239, 247
Stanhope's Trusts, In re	1110, 1216	v. Ruggles	534
Staniford v. Sinclair	931	v. Terrell	360
Stanilland v. Willott	772	v. Warren	1070, 1076
Stanley, In re	80	v. Warrington	1396
v. Bernes	428, 498, 544, 547, 950, 1515, 1517, 1520, 1523	v. Watson	239
v. Brannon	1502	v. Williams	575, 588
v. Mason	1938	v. Windsor	360
v. Potter	1322, 1323	Statham v. Bell	1269
v. Stanley	359, 424, 1487, 1506, 1507	Stead v. Newdigate	658
Stanly v. Mason	2005	v. Platt	681, 1243, 1467
Stanton v. Hall	750	Steadman, In the Goods of	521, 525
v. Platt	1540	v. Powell	53
Stanwood v. Owen	1792	v. Wilbur	752
v. Stanwood	759, 847, 857, 862	Stearley's Appeal	1853
Staples v. Wellington	23, 28	Stearn v. Mills	1968, 1969
Stapleton v. Cheales	1224, 1231	Stearnes v. Wright	291, 292, 549, 575
v. Colville	1710	Stearns v. Brown	1844
v. Conway	1432	v. Burnham	362, 432
v. Stapleton	1085	v. Fiske	417, 440, 579
v. Trulock	252, 1314	v. Stearns	817, 1490, 2060
Staring v. Bowen	352	Stebbins v. Lathrop	7, 281, 283, 311, 312, 440, 578, 1051, 1054
Stark v. Hunton	1445, 1800, 1806	v. Palmer	800
v. Molleson	1225	v. Smith	529, 974
v. Smiley	1258	Stedfast v. Nicoll	1090
Starke v. Keenan	1946	Stedman v. Fiedler	1791
Starling v. Price	1216	v. Priest	1216
Starnes v. Marten	37, 347	Steed v. Calley	22, 1413
Starr v. Newberry	1119, 1123	v. Cragh	695
v. Peck	1514	Steel v. Cook	6
Starrett v. Douglass	41, 42	v. Rorke	1000
Startin v. Lowton	791	v. Steel	650, 687, 1803, 1876, 1983
Stasby v. Powell	1005	Steele, In the Goods of	213, 214
State v. Belin	1820	v. Cobham	2032
v. Bonhan	727	v. Fisher	1445
v. Castleberry	435	v. Livesay	108
v. Clark	17	v. Morrison	981
v. De Wolf	17	v. Price	157, 162, 377, 380, 381
v. Gerard	1070	v. Thompson	1088
v. Groome	1519	Steen v. Steen	959
v. Hallett	1519	Steer, In re	1519
v. Hunter	915	Stebman's Appeal	1853
v. Jackson	371	Steinman v. Saunderson	913
v. Johnson	1808	Steinmetz v. Halthin	1418
v. Jones	33, 34	Stelfox v. Sugden	1360
v. M'Glynn	366	Stell's Appeal	1821, 1836
v. M'Gowan	1070, 1072	Stenhouse v. Mitchell	1197
v. Mahew	1844	Stent v. M'Leod	1497, 1515
v. Manchester & Lawrence R.	796, 797	v. Robinson	1425
v. Mann	534	Stephens v. Barnett	258, 266
v. Mason	1020	v. Beal	847
v. Meagher	1808	v. Bridges	642
v. Mitchell	435	v. French	352
v. Murray	900	v. Frost	1234
v. Nichols	1399	v. Gregg	1693
v. Pike	346	v. Harris	1015, 1039
v. Porter	534	v. Hotham	1761
v. Prewett	1070	v. Lawry	1410
v. Price	452	v. Milnor	1195, 1219, 1360, 1809
v. Raughley	1091	v. Olive	754
		v. Powys	1088
		v. Smart	361

Stephens v. Stephens	1442	Stewart, In re	660
v. Taprell	134	v. Stewart	85, 106, 749, 871, 1488, 2006
v. Totty	1413	v. Treasurer &c.	534
v. Venables	1425, 2051	Stewart's Appeal	332, 450
v. Wall	670	Stickley's Appeal	1084
v. Young	242	Stickney v. Davis	894, 998
Stephens's Appeal	1860	v. Sewall	1808, 1810
Stephenson v. Axson	1402, 1424, 1427, 1428, 1452, 1453, 1797	v. Waters	2060
v. Dowson	1158, 1167, 1196	Stiffe v. Everitt	856
v. Heathcote	1153, 1707, 1708	Stileman v. Ashdown	754
v. Stephenson	449	Stiles v. Guy	1796, 1805, 1806
Stephenson's Appeal	1853	Still v. Noste	1199
Sterlin v. Gros	376	v. Spear	1078
Sterndale v. Hankinson	1795, 2010, 2025	v. Woodville	1519
Sterne, Ex parte	678	Stillman v. Hamer	728
Sterrett's Appeal	1821, 1822, 1833, 1836, 1860, 1863	v. Young	650, 1803, 1946, 1983
Sterry v. Arden	756	Stillwell v. Dougherty	826
Start v. Platel	1124	Stimpson v. Batterman	222
Stetson v. Bass	2060	v. Spence	1091
Stevens v. Bagwell	55, 56, 415	Stinchfield v. Emerson	318
v. Beals	871	Stinson v. Stinson	648, 817, 820
v. Cole	534	Stirling v. Lydiard	1163, 1380
v. Ely	663	St. Louis Hospital v. Wegeman	75
v. Evans	1766	v. Williams	75
v. Gage	1668, 1808	Stobart v. Dryden	20, 352
v. Gaylord	261, 291, 361, 362, 430, 431, 432, 440, 1310, 1515, 1517, 1662, 1664	Stock v. Parker	1798
v. Gregg	881, 1874	Stockdale v. Bushby	1152
v. Langley	590	v. Nicholson	1129, 1132
v. McNamara	318	Stocken v. Dawson	1853
v. Matthews	534	v. Stocken	1301, 1411
v. Vancleve	21, 33, 39, 40, 76, 346, 359	Stocker v. Harbin	1712
v. Warren	1909	Stocks v. Barre	1190
Stevens's Will, In re	1193	v. Dodsley	1145
Stevenson v. Abingdon	1105, 1112	Stocksdale v. Conaway	453
v. Druley	1153	Stockton v. Turner	1265
v. Gullam	1465	v. Wilson	265, 267
v. Weisser	991, 998, 1004	Stockwell v. Ritherdon	128, 180, 353
v. Wood	572	Stoddart, In the Goods of	107
Stevenson's Estate	1853	v. Grant	162, 163
Steward v. Blakeway	652	v. Nelson	1105
v. Cotton	1188	Stodden v. Harvey	926, 987
v. Greaves	1745	Stoever v. Ludwig	576
Stewart Administrators v. Edmonds	407	Stokely's Estate	371
Stewart, In the Goods of	97, 429	Stokley v. Gordon	1151, 1152, 1153, 1155
v. Barrow	1266	Stoker v. Kendall	576, 582
v. Brady	1266	Stokes v. Bates	1893
v. Conner	946, 1822, 1834, 1836	v. Cheek	1196
v. Denton	1166, 1763	v. Heron	1093, 1195
v. Eden	2003	v. Holden	1421
v. Edmonds	1894	v. Porter	234, 257, 258
v. Gallagher	1160	v. Tilly	1080
v. Jones	1219	Stone v. Baker	1911
v. Kissam	750	v. Brown	311
v. Lispenard	17, 26, 38, 40, 115, 350	v. Clark	1946
v. McMinn	1860	v. Damon	37
v. Martin	1427	v. Evans	1204
v. Rogers	754	v. Forsyth	56
v. Richley	877	v. Gazzum	749, 752
		v. Gerrish	1727
		v. Greening	1079
		v. Griffin	1070
		v. Hereford	311
		v. Kaufman	1974
		v. Massey	1226, 1254



Stone v. North	1193	Strong v. Perkins	292, 293, 302, 549
v. Parker	1702	v. Strong	1126, 2015
v. Peasley's Estate	571, 590	v. Teatt	1082
v. Proctor	731	v. White	1187
v. Scripture	362, 364	v. Wilkinson	534
v. Symmes	1777	v. Williams	1296, 1297, 1299
v. Van Heythusen	1012	Stronghill v. Anstey	935
Stonehouse v. Evelyn	1423	Strother v. Dutton	1092, 1240
Stones v. Cooke	846	Stroud v. Barnett	1693
Stopford v. Lord Canterbury	1410	v. Dandridge	1965
Storer v. Prestage	1389, 1390	v. Gwyer	1394
v. Storer	1861	v. Stroud	1355, 1974
v. Wheatley	410, 1118, 1119	Stuart v. Bruere	1227
Storrs v. Benbow	1090, 1251	v. Carson	1693
Story v. Fry	1667, 1950	v. Cockerell	1211
Stose v. People	539	v. Commonwealth	1876
Stote v. Tyndall	434, 975	v. Lord Kirkwall	61
Stott v. Hollingworth	1391	v. Kissam	1451
v. Price	1230	Stubbs v. Houston	204
Stoug v. Wilkson	1804	v. Leigh	487
Stout v. Hart	1168, 1170, 1325	v. Sargon	1084, 1146
Stouvenal v. Stephens	318	Stubfield v. M' Raven	539
Stove v. North	1107	Stubs v. Stubs	723, 1868
Stover v. Kendall	212	Stuckey v. Bellah	1972
Stow, In the Goods of	130	Stukeley v. Butler	708
In re	347	Stulz v. Schaeffe	51
v. Davenport	1631, 1646, 1647, 1654	Stump v. Findlay	1450
v. Stow	352	Sturdivant v. Birchett	91, 94
Stracey, In the Goods of	11	v. Davis	257, 261
Strafford, Earl of, v. Wentworth	825, 828	Sturge v. Dimsdale	1720
Straker v. Wilson	1395	Sturges v. Corp	61, 62
Strange v. Harris	2043	Sturgess v. Pearson	1273
v. Smith	1278	Sturgis v. Darrell	1886, 1952
Stranger v. Searle	349	v. Ewing	1444
Strata Mercella's, Abbot of, case	561	v. Warren	730
Stratford v. Baker	1991	Sturtevant v. Sturtevant	1946
Strathmore v. Bowes	214	Stuyvesant v. Hall	946
Stratton v. Best	1442	Style v. Tomson	959
v. Linton	427	Styles v. Guy	1806, 1820, 1822, 1826, 1827, 1828
v. Stratton	497	Styth v. Munro	1133, 1138
Straub's Appeal	1396	Suarez v. Mayor &c.	1515, 1663
Straus v. Goldsmid	1056	Sugar River Bank v. Fairbanks	1803, 1946, 2023
Strauss v. Schmidt	189	Sugden v. Crossland	1841
Strawbridge v. Funstone	867	v. Lord St. Leonards	159, 360, 380, 381
Streaker, In the Goods of	132	Suggitt's Trusts	1414
Streeter v. Paton	820	Suisse v. Lowther, Lord	1293, 1332, 2011
Stretch v. Pynn	417	Sullings v. Richmond	752, 1490
v. Watkins	1193, 1410	Sullivan v. Bevan	2036
Strever v. Feltman	1911	v. Holker	881, 1871, 1873, 1874
Stricker v. Groves	74, 75, 77, 120	v. Homacker	1887
Strickland v. Aldridge	1153	v. Sullivan	87, 1054
v. Parker	730	v. Winthrop	1387, 1389, 1390, 1402, 1423, 1424, 1425, 1426, 1427, 1429
v. Strickland	284, 1717, 9013	Sullivan's Estate	529
Stride v. Cooper	209	Sully v. Nebergall	1445, 1446
Springer v. Gardiner	1104, 1153, 1199	Summer v. Bromilow	747
v. Harper	2041	v. Parker	563
Strode v. Falkland, Lady	1153	v. Powell	1745, 1746
v. Gibbs	1549	v. Sumner	137
v. Russell	1155, 1199	v. Williams	1776
Strodes v. Patton	1784, 1786	Summerell v. Clements	339, 340
Strohecker v. Grant	1940		
Stronach v. Stronach	650, 938		
Strong v. Doyle	731		
v. Ingram	1291, 1293		

## 2541

Summers, In the Goods of	88	Swift v. Roalwine	1895
Surcome v. Pinniger	752	v. Swift 365, 429, 1079, 1112, 2022,	2041
Surrey v. Bright	1088	v. Thompson	728, 730
Surtees v. Hopkinson	1084	v. Wiley	86, 91
v. Pakin	1718	Swilley v. Lyon	631, 650
Sury v. Cole	648, 918	Swindall v. Swindall	1849, 1851
Suter v. Christie	965	Swindin, In the Goods of	131
Sutherland, In the Goods of	98, 547	Swinfen v. Swinfen	40, 375, 1183, 1818
v. Brush	1820	Swinford, In the Goods of	103
v. Cooke	1163, 1177, 1395	Swink v. Snodgrass	915, 917, 920, 936
Sutter v. Ling	660	Swinton v. Eggleston	1458
v. Long	658	v. Legare	1090, 1091
Sutters v. Johnson	1717	Swoope's Appeal	1335
Suttle v. Turner	461	Swope v. Chambers	1796
Sutton v. Chaplin	838	Sydney v. Vaughan	1225
v. Chenault	67	Sykes v. Meynal	870
v. Cole	1153	v. Sheard	658
v. Craddock	1396	v. Sykes	120, 264, 1216
v. Doggett	2037	Symers v. Johnson	1108
v. Mashiter	1914	Symes v. Green	21
v. Sadler	21, 40, 360	Symmes v. Arnold	74, 104, 106
v. Sharp	1182, 1845, 1847	Symonds v. Marine Society	1060
v. Smith	382, 497	Sympson v. Hornsby	1491
v. Satton	40, 47, 143	Syms v. Syms	589
v. Wilders	1817		
Suwerkrop v. Day	469, 510	T.	
Swabey v. Swabey	615, 689, 1632	Taafe v. Conmee	1465, 1467
Swain v. Roscoe	1081	Tabbart, Ex parte	668
v. Spruill	1395, 1396	Tabor v. Grover	687
Swaine v. Burton	1463	v. Tabor	687
v. Kennerley	1099	Taff v. Hosmer	21, 342
Swainson v. Swainson	1698	Taffe v. Warwick	730
Swallow v. Binns	2017	Taft v. Morse	1931
v. Emberson	1936	v. Stevens	650, 687
Swan & Uxor v. Porter	235	Tagart v. Hooper	154
Swan, In re	1419	v. Squire	153
Swann v. Stransham	1751	Taggard v. Piper	1389
Swartwalter's Appeal	1853, 1860	Taggart's Appeal	235
Swasey v. American Bible Soc.	1070,	Petition	284
v. Little	1072, 1073, 1369	Ex parte	575
Swatzel v. Arnold	1931	Tainter v. Clark	287, 654, 655, 951, 954,
Swazey v. Blackman	362		960, 1072, 1796
Swearingen v. Pendleton	293	Tait v. Lord Northwick	1707, 1708
Swearingham v. Stull	362, 1975	Talbot v. Andrews	440
Sweat v. Hall	1387	v. Salmon	828
Sweeney v. Damron	851, 871	v. Seeman	371, 1088
v. Sampson	749	v. Talbot	199
Sweet v. Chase	1070, 1072	v. Whipple	747
Sweetapple v. Bindon	1084, 1243, 1256	Taliaferro v. Robb	1776, 1783
Sweeting v. Prideux	658	Tallman v. Tallman	1786
v. Sweeting	1080	Tally v. Butterworth	121
Sweetland v. Sweetland	1626	Talmage v. Chapel	362, 878, 883, 1871,
Sweezy v. Thayer	80		1929
v. Willis	668	Taney v. Latane	1070
	418, 436, 462, 668, 689,	Tankerville v. Fawcett	1699
	1511	Tanner v. Byrne	1016
Sweigart v. Berks	837	v. Dancey	2034
Sweets v. Pidsley	97, 130	v. King	1517
Swett v. Boardman	86, 89, 106	v. Smart	2026
Swicard v. Swicard	1784	v. Tebbutt	1268
v. Wilson	1801	Tapley v. Kent	105, 775
Swift, Ex parte	1413	v. Magee	1887
v. Duffield	231, 1090		
v. Edson	204		
v. Miles	989		

Tappan v. Deblois	1070, 1076	Taylor v. How	1897
v. Tappan	292, 302, 304, 529, 533, 650, 785, 1454, 1484, 1931	v. Johnson	1430, 1431
Tappenden v. Walsh	56, 62, 384	v. Johnston	658
Tapper v. Chalcraft	1332	v. Jones	756
Tapster v. Holtzappfell	196	v. Kelly	47, 51, 104
Tarbell v. Parker	1803	v. Langford	1093, 1240
v. Tarbell	1490	v. Lanier	1296, 1300
Tar buck v. Tar buck	1269	v. Lucas	1458
Tarsey's Trusts, In re	1421	v. Martindale	809
Tarver v. Tarver	190, 549	v. Mason	1263, 1264
Tatam v. Williams	2023, 2026	v. Meads	61
Tate v. Austin	1367	v. Mitchell	1058
v. Clarke	1111, 1219	v. Mygatt	1771
v. Hilbert	770, 771, 772, 774, 778, 779, 781	v. Newton	492, 980
v. Leithead	772, 779	v. Phillips	630
Tatham v. Drummond	1066, 1424	v. Plumer	1676
v. Vernon	1112, 1235	v. Popham	1268
v. Wright	23, 43	v. Reece	1498
Tatlock v. Jenkins	1712	v. Richardson	569
Tatnall v. Hankey	56, 373, 391	v. Rundell	2048
Tator v. Tator	1250	v. Savage	594
Tattersall v. Howell	1088, 1258	v. Shore	463, 577, 582
Tatum v. Catomore	130	v. Shum	1750
Taveare v. Ball	1806	v. Stainton	1260
Tawney v. Long	30, 40, 47	v. Stewart	534
v. Ward	1249	v. Sutton	1264
Taylor v. Hawkins	938	v. Tabrum	1804
Taylor v. Bond	709	v. Taylor	87, 179, 343, 549, 658, 662, 663, 1112, 1173, 1351, 1427, 1447
v. Johnson	1085	v. Tibbatts	283, 549
v. Mosher	1093, 1098, 1224, 1229	v. Watts	486
Taylor, In re	37, 660, 1854	v. Wendel	1219, 1272, 1702
In the Goods of	71, 96, 104, 329	v. Wilburn	46, 47, 48, 50
v. Adams	655	Taylor's Appeal	121
v. Allen	232, 2014	Estate, In re	1689, 1698
v. American Bible Soc.	1153	Settlement, In re	658
v. Bacon	1126, 1237, 1242	Will case	360
v. Barron	289, 290, 361, 362, 430, 432, 461, 479, 487, 488, 494, 1662, 1663, 1664, 1929	Taynton v. Hannay	509
v. Benham	658, 918	Tazewell v. Smith	663, 1256
v. Beverley	1465, 1467	Teaff v. Hewitt	727, 730
v. Beverly	1128	Teague v. Downs	759
v. Biddle	576	v. Richards	1915
v. Boggs	1085	v. Wharton	447
v. Brooks	474	Teasdale v. Teasdale	753
v. Burgess	901	Tebbets v. Tilton	291, 292, 549, 562, 575
v. Clarke	1391, 1892	Tebbs v. Carpenter	1091, 1797, 1804, 1806, 1810, 1820, 1844, 1845, 1851, 2035
v. D'Egville	106	Tee v. Ferris	1153
v. Delancey	426	Teed, In the Goods of	463
v. Diplock	179, 197, 463, 464, 546, 1204	v. Morton	1211, 1465
v. Eubanks	754	Teft v. Tillinghast	1182
v. Foster	1217	Tegetmeyer v. Lumley	1876
v. Frobisher	1248, 1257	Telfair v. Howe	1153
v. Galloway	655, 951	Telford v. Barry	1820
v. Gerst	1845	v. Morison	983, 984, 985
v. Grand Trunk R. R. Co.	346	v. Morrison	2060
v. Harris	892	Tempest v. Tempest	1053, 1160, 1185, 1720
v. Haygarth	658, 1475, 1477, 1478, 1480, 1514	Temple v. Chandos	204
v. Hibbert	1391	v. Temple	41, 854
v. Holman	1981, 1994	v. Walker	56, 384
v. Holmes	1874	Templeman v. Fauntleroy	872

## TABLE OF CASES.

2543

Templeman v. Martin	1153	Thomas v. Benson	1107
v. Warrington	1245, 1273	v. Beynon	1153
Templeton v. Bascom	1776, 1777, 1778,	v. Buckner	442
v. Walker	1108, 1124	v. Butler	463, 480, 582, 588
Tenant v. Bray	1265	v. Canterbury, Archbishop	536, 544
Tench v. Cheese	1712	v. Dunn	909
Ten Eyck v. Vanderpool	1785	v. Evans	184
Tennant v. Heathfield	1269	v. Frazer	1745
Tennent v. Tennent	1153	v. Gage	1498
Tenney v. Poor	1679	v. Griffith	1451, 2010
Tenny v. Poor	650	v. Hole	1116, 1513
Terhune v. Bray	1728	v. Howell	1264
Ternegan v. Glass	2023	v. Jones	53, 221, 222, 2037
Terrell v. Mathew	1822	v. Kemeys	689
v. Public Administrator	1335	v. Kettericke	419, 422, 1509
Terwest v. Featherby	1917, 1919, 1920	v. Le Baron	650
Terrible, In the Goods of	215	v. McElwee	1004
Territt v. Woodruff	371	v. Montgomery	1345, 1388,
Terry v. Brunson	856, 1098		404, 1619
v. Dayton	1500	v. Pinnell	996
v. Ferguson	650	v. Reisler	933
v. Robbins	736	v. Riegel	989
v. Terry	1809	v. Scruggs	1827
v. Vest	1980	v. Stanley	539
Terry's Will, In re	1125	v. Stevens	1155
Tessier v. Wise	1693	v. Tanner	1515, 1887
Tevis v. Pitcher	87	v. Thomas	318, 1199
Tew v. Winterton	1427	v. Wall	70, 85
Tewtry v. O'Reagan	800	v. White	1108, 1805
Texidor's Estate	468	v. Wilberforce	1235
Teynham v. Webb	1094	v. Wood	255, 661
Thacher v. Dunham	1860, 1896	Thomason v. Moses	1109, 2038
v. Phinney	753	Thomasson v. Driskell	1894
Thacker v. Wilson	1677, 1761	Thomond v. Suffolk	1322
Thackery v. Hampson	1085	Thompson, Ex parte	118
Thackston v. Hulmlocke	489	In the Goods of	88, 356
Thames v. Richardson	1875, 1887	In re	118, 130, 181, 191
Tharpe v. Stallwood	631	v. Advocate General	1642
Thatcher's Trust, In re	1257	v. Andrews	1793
Thatcher v. Phinney	754	v. Beasley	1112
Thayer v. Boston	1151, 1152, 1153	v. Brown	1037, 1791, 1803,
v. Hollis	1803		1865, 1914
v. Homer	238, 280, 575	v. Browne	104, 107, 1621
v. Lane	650	v. Carmichael	1499, 1502
v. Wellington	97, 100, 1458	v. Clive	2036
Theakston v. Marson	74, 343	v. Cooper	1046, 1047, 2038
Theebridge v. Kilburne	677	v. Corby	1070
Theed's Settlement, In re	1095, 1243	v. Dixon	283
Theevridge v. Kilburn	1108	v. Donaldson	562
Thelluson v. Thelluson	1114	v. Duncan	820
Thellusson v. Woodford	1071, 1079, 1088,	v. Egbert	1444
	1335, 1441	v. Farr	47
Theological Seminary v. Kellogg	1084	v. Field	822
Therry v. Henderson	2011	v. French	1930
Thicknesse v. Liege	1242	v. Garwood	231
Thieband v. Sebastian	1515	v. Gilman	289
Thirlwall, In re	464	v. Griffin	1411
Thirt v. Robinson	422	v. Hackett	578
Thomas, In re	637	v. Hall	101
In the Goods of	86, 103, 329	v. Hefferman	774
v. Anderson	1224, 1243	v. Hempenstall	213
v. Atty. Gen.	1428	v. Hodgson	781
v. Baker	564	v. Hoop	1225
v. Bennett	1297	v. Huckat	445

Thompson v. Hunt	1962	Thornton v. Hardley	658
v. Johnson	105, 107	v. Hawley	665
v. Kyner	20, 21, 33, 40, 47, 50, 352	v. Howe	1072
v. McDonald	1853	v. Kempson	1061, 1062
v. McGaw	1444, 1449, 2029	v. Smiley	1809
v. Maugh	1776	v. Winston	275, 281, 282, 283, 284, 417, 418
v. Meek	281, 461	Thorold v. Thorold	104, 391
v. Mills	759	Thorp, In re	1847
v. Percival	1747	v. Owen	1126
v. Peter	1803	Thorpe v. Eyre	692
v. Pinchell	644, 921	v. Jackson	1744
v. Quimby	97	Thrasher v. Ingram	1080, 1084, 1376
v. Reynolds	1875	Throckmorton v. Hobby	587
v. Robinson	1104	Thrupp v. Collett	1149
v. Sanders	1844	v. Harman	761
v. Schmidt	1374	Thrustout v. Coppin	232, 234, 966
v. Scott	6	v. Peak	1463
v. Searey	534, 540	Thruston's Will, In re	1257
v. Shakespear	1073	Thruston v. Anstey	1431
v. Simpson	1112	v. Doane	1656
v. Stanhope	1900	v. Lowder	1656, 1946
v. Stent	878, 881, 1873	Thrxuton v. Atty. Gen.	1676
v. Stevens	1768	Thumb v. Gresham	430
v. Thomas	1483	Thunn v. Thunn	45
v. Thompson	549, 710, 780, 811, 976, 1011, 1044, 1061, 1697, 1798	Thursby v. Plant	1750, 1938
v. Towne	660, 1686	Thwaites v. Foreman	1370
v. Watts	1490	Thynne v. Glengall	1297, 1300, 1301
v. Webster	753, 754	v. Protheroe	1887
v. White	1675, 1730	Thynne, Lord John, v. Stanhope	74, 147, 148, 149
v. Whitelock	1200, 1206, 1219, 1459	Tibbatts v. Berry	549
v. Wilson	362, 432	Tichborne v. Tichborne	496
v. Young	1132, 1133	Tickner v. Smith	2035
Thompson's Appeal	1502	v. Tickner	204
Trust, In re	1211, 1263	Ticknor v. Harris	650, 1692, 1946, 2023
Thoms v. Thoms	758	Tidd v. Lister	1419, 1712, 1713
Thomson v. Grant	1046, 1665	Tidswell v. Bowyer	1517
v. Harding	273	Tidwell v. Ariel	1206, 1207, 1219
v. Thomson	843, 1071	Tierman v. Jackson	779
v. Tracy	585	Tiffin v. Longman	1116, 1124
Thorild, Goods of	56	v. Tiffin	1548, 1676
Thorn v. State	1974	Tift v. Porter	1158, 1164
v. Tyler	1901	Tilden v. Tilden	8, 87, 88, 103, 185, 348, 1258, 1296
Thornber v. Wilson	1071	Tilghman, Estate of	663
Thornborough v. Baker	1548	v. Stuart	69, 74
Thornbrough v. Baker	687	Tilley v. Register	754
Thorncroft v. Lashmer	107	Tillinghast v. Cook	1108, 1109, 1221
Thorndike v. Boston	1517, 1519	v. Wheaton	778
v. Loring	1250	Tillman v. Hatcher	21
Thorne, In the Goods of	117, 190	Tillotson v. Race	1335
v. Kerr	2053	Tilney v. Norris	1754
v. Rooke	167, 217, 358, 1294	Tilson v. Jones	1260, 1263
v. Watkins	1515, 1516	Tilt v. Bartlett	864
Thornhill v. Adams	942	Tilton v. Tilton	1081
Thornhill v. Hull	1088	Tily v. Smith	658
v. Thornhill	1211, 1219	Timberlake v. Huish	1332
Thornton, In the Goods of	284, 379	v. Parish	1442
v. Burch	710	Timbers v. Katz	847, 856, 857
v. Curling	368, 560, 1515	Timewell v. Perkins	1182
v. Ellis	1163, 1177	Timins v. Stackhouse	1195, 1211
v. Fitzhugh	534	Timmins v. Platt	1682
v. Glover	534	Timon v. Claffy	379, 381
		Timson v. Ramsbottom	1821

Tindal, Ex parte	1727	Toplis v. Baker	1205, 1208
Tindall v. Tindall	1458, 1459, 1460	v. Hurrell	1822
Tindall's Trust, In re	318	Topping, In the Goods of	334
Tiner v. Christian	1853	v. Howard	1129
Tingley v. Cowgill	21, 47, 51	Torrance v. McDougald	448
Tingrey v. Brown	254, 471	Torre v. Brown	1427
Tinsley v. Jones	1088	v. Castle	72, 109, 110
Tipping v. Coates	1741	Torres v. Franco	1248
v. Power	989, 1040, 1715, 2034	Torrey v. Bank of Orleans	938
v. Tipping	722, 764, 766, 767, 1695	v. Pond	1500
Tipton v. Tipton	1098	Torry v. Bowen	86, 89
Tisdale v. Conn. Mut. Life Ins. Co.	318, 562, 1887	Toulmin v. Copland	2044
v. Jones	752	Tounshend v. Early	1090
Titchfield v. Horncastle	1079	Tournay, Ex parte	1904
Titcomb v. Bntler	1090	Tourton v. Flower	293, 362
Titley v. Wolstenholme	960	Toussaint v. Hartop	907
Titlow v. Titlow	51	Tower v. Rous	1707
Tobey v. Manufacturer's Nat. Bank	785	v. Thompson	2035
v. Miller	270, 271	Tower's Appropriation	1258
Tobias v. Francis	730	Towers v. Hagner	757
Todd v. Bielby	1368	v. Moor	1741
v. Lewis	534	Towle v. Lovet	791, 877, 1732
v. Moore	938	v. Swasey	817, 1158, 1160, 1297, 1300, 1359, 1364, 1367, 1368, 1369, 1425, 1444, 1694, 2038
v. Todd	1693	Towndrow, In the Goods of	327
v. Trott	1216	Towne v. Ammidown	461, 529, 1399, 1796, 1820
v. Wilson	1854	Townend v. Townend	653, 1842, 1851, 2050
v. Winchelsea	91	Townes v. Durbin	1515
Todd's Will	104, 188	Townley v. Bedwell	1071
Tofield v. Tofield	1088	v. Steele	878
Tolcher, In the Goods of	329	v. Watson	144, 145, 147
Tolderry v. Colt	1271	Towns v. Mead	1950
Tole v. Hardy	1424, 1707, 1931	v. Wentworth	1079, 1080
Toller v. Atwood	1080, 1243	Townsend v. Barber	1821
Tollner v. Marriott	1268, 2025	v. Deacon	1886
Tolpuut v. Wells	1033, 1035, 1916	v. Downer	1078, 1200
Tolson v. Collins	1300, 1301	v. Gordon	404
v. Tolson	1127	v. Martin	1166
Tombs v. Roch	1693, 1694, 1718	v. Maynard	754
Tomkins v. Colthrust	1717	v. Mostyn	1699
v. Gratton	1997	v. Pepperell	346, 360
v. Tomkins	26, 40, 47, 111, 351, 360, 1156	v. Townsend	452, 549
Tomkyns v. Blane	1442	v. Westacott	754
v. Ladbrooke	104, 1534, 1536, 1541, 1545	v. Wilson	955
Tomlin v. Beck	261, 264	v. Windham	767
v. Tomlin	1316	Townshend, In the Goods of	331
Tomlinson v. Gill	1777	v. Carus	1072, 1076
v. Maany	1896	v. Duncan	549
v. Smith	933	v. Townshend	20, 23, 29, 31, 45, 346, 352
v. Tomlinson	192, 198, 1061	v. Windham	1148, 1686
Tompkins v. Tompkins	6, 549	v. Wyndham	754
Tongue v. Nutwell	1112, 1459	Townson v. Tickell	948, 1378, 1386
Tonnele v. Hall	83, 97, 100, 107	Tozer, In the Goods of	148
Tonnell v. Ford	1086	Re	148
Tooke v. Hardeman	1445	Tracey v. Butcher	1243
Tooker v. Annealey	709	Tracy v. Strong	835
Toomes v. Etherington	905	v. Suydam	1801
Toomy, In the Goods of	240	Trafford v. Berrige	1182
Tootle v. Spicer	2037	v. Trafford	725
Topham v. Chapman	1664	Trail v. Bull	1385
v. Morecroft	1935	Trammel v. Philleo	1819, 1860
v. Topham	80		

Trammell v. Trammell	1523	Trowbridge v. Holden	759
Trapp, Ex parte	845	Trower v. Butts	1090
Trapnall v. Burton	1911	v. Cox	583
Trappes v. Harter	734, 736, 740	Trueman v. Tilden	1787, 1789
v. Meredith	1266	Trull v. Fuller	730
Trasher v. Everhart	371	Trumbull v. Gibbons	20, 21, 30, 33, 37, 47, 48
Trask v. Donaghue	302, 791	Truro, Lady, In the Goods of	98
Trattle v. King	635	Trust v. Harned	1004
Traver v. Schell	1224, 1261	Trutch v. Lamprell	1820, 1826
Travers v. Boykin	1943	Trye v. Corporation of Gloucester	1063, 1066, 1067, 1068
v. Miller	353, 357	Tryon v. Sutton	846
v. Travers	1480	Tubby v. Tubby	1692
Travis v. Milne	1792, 2021	Tuck v. Boone	452
v. Morrison	1153, 1230	Tucke, Sir Brian, case of	1729
Treadwell v. Cordis	287, 654, 954, 955, 1796, 1909	Tucker, In the Goods of	297, 430
v. Rainey	371	Ex parte	56
Treat v. Fortune	1038	v. Ball	1082, 1256
Treat's Appeal	1076	v. Bishop	1091
Trecothick v. Austin	361, 362, 364, 429, 658, 878, 883, 1663, 1675, 1884, 1885	v. Boswell	1392
Tregonwell v. Sydenham	1459	v. Burrow	1338
Treil v. Edwards	1988	v. Calvert	74
Tremere v. Morison	1759, 1760	v. Condy	1515, 1664
Tremper v. Barton	1502	v. Harris	452, 1249
Trent v. Hanning	1088	v. Inman	53, 54, 56, 384
v. Trent	1051	v. Oxner	87
Trescot v. Trescot	959, 2006	v. Phipps	312, 393
Tresham's case	1956	v. Seaman's Aid Society	1078, 1084, 1153, 1154, 1199, 1202
Trethewy v. Ackland	1741, 1956, 1960, 1962, 1964	v. Stiles	1098
Trevanion, In the Goods of	94	v. Tucker	1877
Trevelyan v. Trevelyan	105, 158, 379, 380	v. Westgarth	462
Treves v. Townshend	1432, 1847	v. Williams	261
Treviban v. Lawrence	900	Tuckey v. Hawkins	1868
Trevor v. Trevor	1200	v. Henderson	1291
Trewinian v. Howell	1771, 1783	Tudor v. Terrell	1154, 1199
Trezenvant v. Frazer	1860	v. Tudor	70, 171
Tribe v. Newland	1242, 1263, 1466	Tuggle v. Gilbert	1802
v. Tribe	92	Tugman v. Hopkins	59, 384
Trimble v. Turner	1679	Tugwell v. Heyman	1788, 1790
Trimlestown v. D'Alton	42, 45, 48, 1153	v. Scott	1100
v. Trimlestown	580, 581	Tulk v. Howlditch	1268
Trimmell v. Fell	63, 192	Tullett v. Armstrong	751
Trimmer v. Bayne	1333, 1335, 1337, 1719	Tullis v. Kidd	346
v. Danby	1073	Tulloch v. Dunn	1947
v. Jackson	89	Tunison v. Tunison	89
Trimmier v. Trail	938	Tunno v. Trevesant	752
Trinder, In the Goods of	88	Tunstall v. Brachen	1254
v. Trinder	1331, 1438	v. Pollard	362, 1662, 1664, 1803
Tringley v. Cowhill	40	Tupper, Ex parte	638
Trinmel, In the Goods of	93	v. Tupper	153, 186
Tripp v. Talbird	1451, 1452	Turbett v. Turbett	1084
Tripe v. Frazier	1204, 1458, 1459	Turing v. Turing	1465
Trippner v. Abrahams	754	Turley v. Johnson	47
Triquet v. Thornton	658	Turner, In the Goods of	153, 318
Trott v. Skidmore	79, 103	In the Matter of	66
v. West	1946	Re	1003, 1130, 1211
Trotter v. Trotter	1802	v. Buck	1732
v. White	362, 364	v. Burkinshaw	1849
v. Williams	1260	v. Cameron	730
Trough's Estate	774	v. Cameron's Coal Brook Company	1731
Troughton v. Binkes	2020	v. Capel	1111, 1115
v. Troughton	1686	v. Cheesman	47, 48, 346
Troup v. Smith	1734		

## 2547

Turner v. Childs	264, 269	Tyrone v. Waterford	1093, 1178
v. Connor	1918	Tyrral v. Lyford	1153
v. Cook	87, 89, 91	Tyrrall v. Clark	834
v. Cox	990, 1315	v. Jenner	20
v. Crane	873	v. Tyrrall	1428
v. Davies	593, 594, 1898	Tyrrall's, Lady, case	757, 761, 764, 767
v. Davis	592, 691	Tyson v. Blake	1389, 1396
v. Debell	1867	v. Jackson	2031
v. Dorgan	2011	v. Tyson	21, 47, 49, 50
v. Ellis	980	Tytherleigh v. Harbin	1211, 1219
v. Frampton	1088, 1106, 2038		
v. Hand	21		
v. Hardey	946, 950	U.	
v. Ivie	1093		
v. Jennings	1534	Udall v. Kenney	694
v. Lee	929	Udny v. Udny	1517, 1519, 1520, 1521
v. Martin	1206, 1366, 1634	Uhlig v. Horstman	749
v. Moor	1260	Uldrick v. Simpson	275
v. Mullineux	1648	Ulrich v. Litchfield	1088, 1153, 1199
v. Newport	1392, 1395	Underhill v. Devereux	638, 644, 675, 890
v. Ogden	1070, 1071	v. Morgan	758, 1730
v. Patterson	1093	v. Roden	1093, 1276.
v. Turner	763, 809, 1010, 1412, 1429, 1805, 1844	v. The Saratoga & Wash. R. R.	1258
v. Wardle	1019	Underwood v. Dismukes	1224
v. Whitted	1086	v. Hatton	1357
v. Withers	1217	v. Milligan	1774
Turner's case	1962	v. Morris	1275
Turney v. Gates	1974	v. Stevens	1820, 1824, 1828, 1830
v. Williams	1844, 1845	v. Wing	414, 464, 1204, 1260
Turnley v. Hooper	753	Union Bank v. Emerson	730, 740
Turpin v. Thompson	777	v. McDonough	989
v. Turpin	6, 221	United States v. Arredondo	1267
Turpine v. Forreyner	1081	v. Crosby	366, 1515
Turwin v. Gibson	991	v. Cutts	1675
Tutham v. Cattamore	130	v. Daniel	1728, 1730
Tuttle v. Fowler	846	v. Duncan	991, 1447
v. Robinson	731, 734, 739, 969, 1667, 1668, 1798, 1806, 1808, 1853, 1860, 1863	v. Fisher	991, 992
Twaddell's Appeal	1806	v. Hooe	991
Twaites v. Smith	343, 344	v. M'Glue	360
Tweedale v. Coventry	1693	v. McRae	371
v. Tweedale	1194, 1290	United States, President of, v. Drum- mond	1517
Twining v. Powell	185, 1337	Universalist Society, North Adams, v. Fitch	1057
Twisden v. Twisden	1500	University of Vermont & State Agricultural College v. Baxter's Estate	1721, 1931
v. Wise	862	University v. Blount	67
Twitty v. Camp	1266	Upchurch v. Norsworthy	1372
Twopeny v. Peyton	1052, 1266	v. Upchurch	75, 77, 91, 94
Twyford v. Trail	472	Upfill v. Marshall	218, 355
v. Treal	290	Upjohn v. Upjohn	1459
Twyne's case	755	Upper Appomattox Co. v. Harding	793,
Tylden, In the Goods of	189		817
v. Hyde	655, 961	Upshaw v. Upshaw	1449
Tyler v. Bell	361, 362, 1839, 1929	Upton v. Ferrers, Lord	723
v. Gardiner	45, 46, 48, 50	v. Northbridge	1522
v. Jones	908	v. Prince	1332
v. Lake	750	v. Vanner	1360
v. Mapes	89	Urmev v. Wooden	1070
v. Trabue	371	Urquhart v. Ericker	339
v. Tyler	198	v. King	1474, 1479, 1481
v. Whitney	891, 1883	v. Urquhart	1124
Tyndale v. Wilkinson	1084, 1513		
Tyneham v. Webb	1097		
Tynt v. Tynt	767, 768		



Usher, <i>Ex parte</i>	993	Van Orden v. Van Orden	1445, 1931
Usilton v. Usilton	1106	Vanquelin v. Bonard	362, 647
Ustick v. Bowden	180	Van Rensselaer v. Platner	1763
Utica Ins. Co. v. Lynch	1846, 1849, 1851	Van Riper v. Van Riper	1297
Utley v. Rawlins	1802	Vanseyckle v. Richardson	1656
Utterson v. Mair	236, 2020	Van Straubenzee v. Monck	98, 100, 338
v. Utterson	157	Vanthienen v. Vanthienen	362
Utterton v. Robins	97, 212	Vantine v. Morse	1162
		Vanvechten v. Keator	1695, 1704, 1705
		v. Pearson	1086
		v. Vanvechten	1088
		Van Wert v. Benedict	107
		Van Winkle v. Van Houten	1712, 1717
		Van Wyck, <i>In re</i>	461
		v. Bloodgood	1224, 1233, 1235
		v. Seward	754
		Vanzant v. Morris	1093
		Vardeman v. Ross	654
		Varley v. Winn	1219, 1263, 1428
		Varner v. Bevil	366
		Varnum v. Camp	990
		Varrell v. Wendell	1116, 1117
		Vass v. Southall	763
		Vauchamp v. Bell	1080
		Vaughan v. Barrett	289, 362, 432
		v. Browne	270, 633
		v. Buck	1163, 1177, 1414
		v. Burford	91
		v. Burslem	725
		v. DeLoatch	1656
		v. Dickens	1108, 1225
		v. Lord Headfort	1094
		v. Northrop	1929
		v. Northup	362
		v. Thurston	2035
		v. Vanderstegen	1686
		v. Wilson	895
		Vaughen v. Haldeman	739
		Vaughn v. Gardner	1940
		Vaux v. Henderson	1108, 1147
		Vawdry v. Geddes	1232, 1233, 1235, 1237, 1243, 1247, 1250
		Vawser v. Jeffery	204
		Vawter v. Griffin	1178
		Veal v. Veal	777, 778
		Veale v. Gatesdon	1961, 1962
		Veasey v. Whitehouse	1931
		Veazie v. Marrett	1946
		Vechten v. Keator	1084
		Veghelman v. Keighley	1799
		Veiga, <i>In the Goods of</i>	280, 430
		Velho v. Leite	251
		Venable v. Mitchell	650
		Venables v. East India Company	286, 302
		Verdier v. Verdier	89, 187, 352
		Vermilya v. Beatty	1929
		Verner's Estate	1807, 1821, 1843, 1844
		Vernon v. Curtis	1047
		v. Egmont	1346, 1356
		v. Henry	1153, 1836
		v. Kirk	75, 103, 115, 347, 350, 352
		v. Manvers	1712
V.			
Vachell v. Jeffreys	1499		
v. Roberts	1177		
Vaden v. Hance	1502		
Vail's Appeal	2062		
Vaisey v. Reynolds	715, 1187, 1188		
Valentine v. Jackson	877		
v. Valentine	1853		
Vallance v. Vallance	379		
Van v. Barnett	658		
Van Alst v. Hunter	26, 33, 38, 39, 360		
Van Alstyne v. Van Alstyne	1088		
Van Ames v. Jackson	108		
Van Arsdale v. Van Arsdale	1445		
Vanartsdalen v. Vanartsdalen	66		
Van Beuren v. Dash	1221		
Van Bramer v. Hoffman	1425		
Vanbrough v. Cock	572		
Vance v. Fisher	650		
v. Hulling	1499		
v. Nagle	758		
v. Vance	759, 760		
Vancil v. Evans	1084		
Van Cortland v. Kip	97, 211, 213, 1459		
Vandeleur v. Vandeleur	1693, 1710		
Vandenberg v. Palmer	1623		
Vandergucht v. Blake	1217		
v. De Blaquiére	846		
Vanderheyden v. Vanderheyden	1844, 1851		
	1464		
Vanderplank v. King	562		
Vanderpool v. Van Valkenberg	1215		
Vanderzee v. Aclom	1087		
Van Derzee v. Van Derzee	624		
Vandiest v. Fynmore	75, 76		
Vandruff v. Kinehart	108		
Van Duyn v. Van Duyn	1224, 1235		
Van Dyke v. Vanderpool	934		
Vane v. Rigden	938		
Van Epps v. Van Epps	33		
Van Guyaling v. Van Kuren	86		
Vanhagen, <i>In the Goods of</i>	1090		
Van Hook v. Rogers	1987		
Vanhorn v. Teasdale	1258, 1263		
Van Horne v. Dorrence	276, 278		
v. Fonda	67, 216, 1084, 1458, 1459		
Van Kleeck v. Dutch Church	2006		
Van Mater v. Sickles	980, 981		
Van Meter v. Jones	1080		
Vannerson v. Culbertson	1682		
Van Ness v. Hyatt	728		
v. Pacard	1895		
Van Orden v. Reynolds			

Vernon v. Thellusson	1916, 1920, 1924,	Wade v. Russell	1413
v. Vawdry	2039	v. Saunders	1418
v. Vernon	827, 828	Wadesworth v. Andrews	588
Vernon's case	1199	Wadleigh v. Janvrin	730
Verulam, Lord, v. Bathurst	678, 1108	Wadley v. North	1240
Vez v. Emery	1801	Wadsworth, In re	237
Vezey v. Jameson	1076, 1077	v. Alcott	710
v. Jameson	1478	v. Guy	814, 1765
Vicery v. Hobbs	45	v. Ruggles	1202
Vick v. McDaniel	1458	Waggoner v. Miller	1514
v. Vicksburg	461	Wagner's Appeal	1502
Vickers v. Bell	279	Estate	54
v. Cowell	651, 843, 1900	Wagner v. McDonald	104, 106, 188
v. Pound	1160, 1170	v. Mears	339
v. Scott	1392	v. Ryan	262, 269, 270
Vickery v. Beir	362	Wagstaff v. Crosby	1273, 1465
v. Hobbs	188, 552	v. Smith	61
Vidal v. Girard	1070, 1072	v. Wagstaff	221
Viesca v. D'Aramburn	370, 430	Wain v. Warlters	1784
Vigor v. Harwood	1392	Wainford v. Barker	976, 2057
Vigrass v. Binfield	1807	Wainwright, In the Goods of	1204
Villa v. Dimock	230	v. Bendlowes	1710
Villard v. Roberts	1860	Waise v. Whitfield	1710
Vincent v. Godson	1011, 1927	Wait v. Belding	6, 221, 1438
v. Newcombe	1163	v. Huntington	294
v. Platt	689	Waite v. Combes	1189, 1190
v. Sharpe	1657, 1660	v. Littlewood	1466
Viner v. Cadell	637	v. North Eastern Ry. Co.	797
v. Francis	1087, 1090, 1216, 1219	v. Templar	1110
Vinnedy v. Shaffer	751	v. Waite	2040
Vinnicombe v. Butler	103	v. Webb	1060, 1075
Virgin v. Gaither	771, 774	v. Whorwood	2052
Vittum v. Gilman	801	Wake v. Varah	1086, 1466
Vivian v. Campion	802	Wakefield v. Phelps	6, 53, 62, 221, 1088
v. Mills	1234	Wakeman v. Hazleton	1817
Vize v. Stoney	1229, 1234	Walcot v. Botfield	1517
Voelckner v. Hudson	763	v. Ochterlony	184
Vogel, Succession of	293, 409	Walcott v. Hall	1452, 2054
v. Vogle	752	Walden v. Chambers	857
Volgen v. Yates	1076	Waldo v. Caley	1076
Vorhees v. Bonesteel	749	Waldron v. Boulter	1112
v. Stoothoff	1804, 1844, 1849	v. Waldron	1702, 1704
v. Voorhees	379, 381	Waldsmith v. Waldsmith	1931
Voorhies v. Eubank	1974	Wale v. Dewitt	360
v. McGinnis	730	Wales v. Willard	452, 549, 563
Vorhis v. Freeman	730, 740	Walker, In the Goods of	79
Vorley v. Richardson	1465	v. ———	1810
Vreeland v. Van Ryper	1463	v. Bradbury	1483
Vroom v. Van Horne	364, 407	v. Bradley	1036, 1909
v. Vulliamny	1263	v. Burrows	753
Vulliamy v. Noble	1658, 1742, 1747	v. Byers	1946
Vynior's case	11, 124	v. Bynum	1844
W.		v. Lord Camden	1183
W — v. B —	1275	v. Carless	417, 481
Waddill v. Martin	1853	v. Cheever	1036, 1037, 1803, 1946, 2005, 2006, 2023
Waddy v. Hawkins	539	v. Cook	1400
Wade v. American Col. Society	1070	v. Coover	749
v. Grimes	691	v. Crosland	533
v. Johnson	730	v. Craig	933
v. Kalbfleisch	800	v. Denne	658
v. Lobdell	549	v. Dougherty	495
v. Nazer	218, 1153	v. Drury	1414
		v. Eyth	1743
		v. Furrowes	756

Walker v. Hall	192, 201, 974	Wallis v. Hodgson	419
v. Hardwicke	1705	v. Hodson	1497, 1511
v. Hill	1036, 1451, 1862, 1909, 1915	v. Mease	705
v. Hull	814, 1765	v. Pipon	538
v. Hunter	39, 46, 347	v. Taylor	1144
v. Jackson	1708, 1710	v. Wallis	479
v. Johnston	1090, 1465	Wallop v. Hewett	1290
v. Jones	104	v. Irvin	898
v. Main	1093, 1217, 1219, 1240, 1254, 1263	Wallop's case, Re Trusts, In re	1589
v. May	273, 407		373, 1596, 1664
v. Milne	1061, 1062	Wallor v. Drakeford	307
v. Mower	1232	Walls v. Stewart	204, 1159, 1160, 1168, 1170, 1711
v. Murphy	655	Wally v. Wally	763
v. Parker	1169	Walmsley v. Milne	730, 734, 740, 743, 748
v. Patterson	1776, 1786	Walpole v. Apthorp	1171
v. Roberts	616	v. Cholmondely, Lord	187, 213, 217, 1153
v. Sherman	728, 730	v. Lord Orford	125, 126, 213, 217
v. Short	1091, 1093, 1393	Walrond v. Walrond	1851, 2035
v. Smith	112, 552	Walsam v. Skinner	1536
v. Symonds	1809, 2015	Walsh v. Gladstone	105, 167, 170, 559, 1291
v. Symons	1835	v. Peterson	1084
v. Taylor	1790	v. Walsh	1405, 1497, 1513
v. Tipping	567, 1083	Walston v. White	1878
v. Torrance	575	Walter v. Hodge	758, 759, 772, 781
v. Vincent	1266, 1267	v. Logan	655
v. Walker	85, 196, 749, 1070, 1084, 1085, 1264, 1425, 1853, 1946, 1966	v. Makin	1132
v. Wetherell	1409, 1412	v. Maunde	956
v. Williamson	1090	v. Miller	1730
v. Witter	998	v. Radcliffe	1803
v. Woodward	1851	Walters v. Crutcher	1093
v. Woolaston	495, 498, 502, 509	v. Pfeil	381, 1891
Walker's case	1752	Walthall v. Aldrich	491, 492
Trust	1263	Waltham Bank v. Wright	1803
Walker's Samuel, Estate	1158, 1170, 1693, 1853, 1861	Walthour v. Walthour	1844
Walkers v. Thorn	112	Walton, In re	1110, 1115
Walkup v. Pratt	1894	v. Jacobson	474
Wall v. Atkinson	2054	v. Walton	6, 186, 204, 221, 1088, 1159, 1160, 1162, 1165, 1320, 1621, 1325, 1499, 1530
v. Bushby	2048	Walworth v. Abel	630
v. Byrne	685	Wambough v. Schank	318
v. Colshead	658, 665	Wampler v. Wampler	19, 47, 49, 93, 351
v. Hinds	728, 730, 739, 744, 747	Wansborough v. Dyer	1784
v. Tomlinson	1273	Wansbrough v. Maton	729
v. Wall	1425, 1429, 1648	Wankford v. Wankford	234, 254, 255, 276, 277, 284, 285, 302, 304, 307, 308, 310, 383, 404, 471, 915, 963, 1048, 1310, 1311, 1312, 1313, 1414, 1315, 1217, 1318, 1867
Wall's Appeal	1852	Warbass v. Armstrong	1853
Wallace v. Anderson	1266	Warbrick v. Varley	1649
v. Attorney General	373, 1643	Warburton v. Burrows	70
v. Auldjo	1418	v. Hill	505
v. Barlow	1965	v. Loveland	1078
v. Pomfret	1302	Warbutton v. Warbutton	1447
v. Wallace	575, 1088, 1158, 1159, 1160, 1162, 1182, 1359, 1710, 1717	Ward, In the Goods of Matter of	417
Waller v. Barrett	1344	Re	187
v. Childs	1057, 1071	v. Arch	467
v. Drakeford	1888	v. Audland	658
v. Waller	69, 73, 77		1770
Wallich, In the Goods of	251		
Wallinger v. Wallinger	1441		
Wallis v. Brightwell	1434		
v. Hodgson	21		

Ward v. Bevil	263, 1081, 1106	Warren v. Paff	1879, 1951
v. Burrows	1086	v. Postlethwaite	1157
v. Butler	1287	v. Rogers	1931
v. Coffield	1299, 1303	v. Rudall	1075, 1269, 1449
v. Devon	655	v. Thomaston	1517
v. Glenn	54, 550	v. Warren	1300
v. Grey	1051, 1126	v. Wigfal	1160, 1178
v. Hunter	1881	Warrender v. Warrender	1522
v. Lant	1332, 1500	Wartnaby, In the Goods of	378
v. Moore	204	Warwick v. Greville	402, 422, 426, 427, 950
v. Painter	996, 2027	v. Hawkins	9
v. Sanders	1088, 1109	v. Richardson	1013, 1810
v. Shallet	755	Wase v. Wyburd	2000
v. Stowe	1108	Washburn v. Cuddihy	360
v. Sutton	1098	v. Goodman	652
v. Thomas	1974	v. Gould	817
v. Thompson	413	v. Hale	763, 980
v. Turner	104, 770, 774, 776, 777, 778, 780, 781, 782	v. Sewall	1052, 1070
v. Waller	1086	v. Sprout	728, 1656
v. Ward	57, 1449, 1462	v. Washburn	763
v. Yates	1414	Washington v. Blunt	280, 412
Warden, In the Goods of	88	v. Cole	346
v. Burts	1860	Wasney v. Earnshaw	1935
v. Jones	752	Wasson v. King	951
v. Richards	951, 954	Waterborough v. Newfield	1519
Wardlaw v. Gray	857	Waterfall v. Penistone	730
Wardle v. Claxton	750	Waterhouse v. Bourke	980
Wardwell v. McDowell	954	v. Holmes	1063
v. Wardwell	66	Waterman v. Hawkins	201, 1404
Ware, Eliza, Will, In re	37	v. Whitney	51, 359, 360
Ex parte	1013	Waterpark v. Fennell	1153
v. Cann	1266	Waters, In the Goods of	440, 466
v. Cumberlege	1061	v. Howard	1441, 1442
v. Fisher	1141, 1206, 1209	v. Margerum	654
v. Rowland	1123	v. Nettleton	793, 1734
v. St. Louis Bagging & Rope Co.	1974	v. Ogden	1035
v. Ware	21, 360	v. Stewart	1682
v. Watson	1084, 1217, 1263	v. Stickney	295, 319, 320, 325, 334, 339, 340, 376, 549, 555, 562, 571, 575, 577, 578, 583, 584, 590
Wareham v. Sellers	106, 107	v. Tazewell	751, 1275
Warfield v. Warfield	1498	v. Wood	1200
Wargent v. Hellings	157	Watford v. Masham	230
Waring v. Danvers	1034	Wathen v. Smith	1299
v. Dewbury	633	Watkins, In the Goods of	98
v. Edmonds	777	v. Brent	381, 382, 499, 500, 1891
v. Lee	1103, 1104	v. Cheek	937, 1254, 1255
v. Purcell	710, 835	v. Dean	104
v. Ward	1702	v. Flora	1153
v. Waring	21, 22, 27, 29, 32, 33, 34, 843, 1177, 1693	v. Maule	943, 2039
Warley v. Warley	1084, 1171, 1693	v. Quarles	1241, 1243
Warner v. Bates	108, 194	v. Sears	1086
v. Beach	187, 191, 192, 194	v. Watkins	1445
v. Swearingen	220, 227	v. Weston	1265
v. Wainford	1039	v. Williams	1267
Warner's Appeal	1469	Watmough's Trusts, In re	1064
Warren, In the Goods of	445	Watsham v. Stainton	1739
v. Baxter	87	Watson, In the Goods of	467
v. Consett	1987	v. Anderson	346
v. Hall	261	v. Birch	2025, 2029
v. Harding	117	v. Blaine	803
v. High	1376	v. Bonney	1139
v. Hofer	1522	v. Brickwood	1693, 1708
v. Leland	708		

Watson v. Child	221	Webb v. Russell	641
v. Collins	291, 430, 473	v. Shaftesbury, Lord	836, 1442
v. Dennis	856	v. Spurrell	892
v. England	318, 1465	v. Webb	1199, 1531, 1533
v. Hayes	1231, 1232, 1237	v. Woods	1126
v. King	318, 1888	Webb's Appeal	856
v. Lincoln, Lord	1332	Webber v. Stanley	1087, 1152, 1153, 1202
v. Mayrant	239	v. Webber	687
v. Milward	975, 983	Webley v. Langstaff	1153
v. Parker	1015, 1017, 2007	Webster, Matter of	534
v. Piper	89	v. Atkinson	1153
v. Pulling	1937	v. Blackman	1965
v. Reed	1290, 1291	v. Boddington	1250
v. Saul	2030	v. Hale	1160, 1164, 1260, 1424
v. Stone	1819	v. Hammond	1029
v. Toone	938, 1843	v. Pair	1106
v. Warnock	66	v. Spencer	381, 879, 881, 1808, 1873
v. Watson	39, 1240, 1333, 1335, 1337	v. Webster	265, 752, 1265, 1461, 2024
v. Whitten	1841	Weddall v. Nixon	389
v. Woods	1224, 1225	Weddell v. Munday	1084, 1085
Watson's Trusts, In re	1106, 1263	Wedderburn v. Wedderburn	653, 1658, 1842, 1846, 2028
Watt v. Briggs	878	Wedge, In the Goods of	104
v. Watt	410	Weeden v. Bartlett	121
Wattles v. Hyde	2057	Weeding v. Weeding	660
Watts, In the Goods of	37, 330, 467, 520	Weehawken Ferry Co. v. Sisson	1112
Re	37	Weekes v. Trussell	1733
v. Cole	521, 525	Weeks v. Gore	1046
v. Crooke	6	v. Jewett	410, 412, 650, 696, 1396, 1489
v. Gale	422, 1511	v. M'Beth	157, 162
v. Girdlestone	534	v. Patten	1441
v. New York	1815	v. Weeks	847, 1396
v. New York, Public Administration of	69, 77	Weems v. Bryan	980
v. Rees	96	Weeton v. Woodcock	747
v. Symes	1876	Weidman v. Marsh	65
Waugh, In re	1014	Weigall v. Brome	1672
v. Riley	1867, 2012	Weigand's Appeal	1820, 1828
v. Waugh	12	Weigel v. Weigel	346, 350
Way v. Bassett	1211, 1219	Weir, In the Goods of	481, 531
Wayman v. Jones	1743, 1949, 2027	v. Mosher	946
Wayne v. Green	1822, 1828	v. Tate	1799
Weale v. Ollive	1519	Weir's case	360
Weall v. Rice	1770	Will	26, 47
Weatherford v. Tate	1300, 1302	Weiss v. Dill	1859
Weatherhead v. Field	1107	Welby v. Rockcliffe	1710
v. Sewell	1502	v. Thornagh	45
Weaver v. Chace	20	v. Welby	1441
Webb, In the Goods of	410	Welchen v. Elkington	1376, 1384
v. Adkins	90, 104	Welch v. Anderson	1444
v. Bellinger	304, 535, 1876	v. Phillips	157, 180
v. Byng	1804	v. Wallace	1974
v. Claverden	1093, 1153, 1202	v. Welch	87, 103, 750
v. Cowdell	45	Welch's Appeal	1324
v. De Beauvoisin	1874	Welchman v. Sturgis	632
v. Dietrich	1712	Welchman's Trusts, In re	1414
v. Elmore	235, 237, 575	Weld v. M'Clure	539
v. Grace	1880	Welles v. Cowles	817, 1657
v. Jones	1276	Welles's Appeal,	549
v. Kelly	1710	Welling v. Owings	121
v. Kirby	1430	Wellington v. Dolman	412
v. Neal	469, 503, 509	v. Wellington	197, 1088
v. Needham	1070	Wellis v. Nicholson	1866
v. Puckey	418, 427, 440		
	1081		

Wellman v. Bowring	1142	Weston v. Weston	736, 738
Wells, In the Goods of	527	Westover v. Chapman	1847
v. Bannister	728	Westwick v. Wyer	1378
v. Child	335, 529, 1803, 2023	Westwood v. Southey	1236, 1242
v. Corbyn	390	Wetdrill v. Wright	426, 536, 462, 464
v. Doane	108	Wetenhall v. Dennis	2037
v. Fyde	1955	Wetherbee v. Wetherbee	360
v. Grigsby	1809	Wetherby v. Dixon	1337
v. Lewis	951, 954	Wetherell v. Howells	711
v. McCall	751	v. Wetherell	1193
v. Malbon	1408, 1901	v. Wilson	1126
v. Miller	631	Wetmore v. Parker	8, 185, 186, 221, 1081, 1084, 1087
v. Robinson	1449	Weyman v. Ringold	1224, 1235, 1238, 1464
v. Smith	1258	Whale v. Booth	639, 643, 933, 935, 937
v. Some	491	Wharram v. Wharram	159, 380
v. Treadwell	758	Wharton v. Barker	1123
v. Tucker	772, 774, 776, 781	Wharton v. Durham, Lord	1333
v. Wells	17, 142, 185, 204, 433, 1663	v. Richardson	1988
v. Wilder	763	v. Shaw	1106
v. Williams	231	Whately v. Spooner	1190
v. Wilson	197	Whatford v. Moore	1249
Wells's Estate, In re	1101	Whatman, In the Goods of	213
Welch, In re	40, 45, 47, 48, 377	Wheable v. Withers	1263
Welsh v. Welsh	1679, 1946	Wheatland v. Dodge	1093
Welty v. Welty	103	Wheatley v. Badger	242, 282, 1796
Wendell v. French	1844, 1846, 1853, 1854, 1860, 1863	v. Lane	785, 1720, 1728, 1729, 1797, 1838, 1921, 1953, 1975, 1983, 1984, 1987, 1999
Wenlock, In the Goods of	74, 86	Wheatly v. Martin	1784, 1786
Wentlock, In the Goods of	329	Wheeler, In the Goods of	414, 464, 1204
Wentworth v. Cock	1725, 1726	v. Adams	1123
Wentz v. Fincher	730	v. Alderson	22, 34, 42, 112, 350
Werkheiser v. Werkheiser	120	v. Allan	1211
Werner v. Humphreys	880, 1939	v. Bent	144, 145, 152
Werstler v. Custer	21	v. Brem	1432
Wescott v. Cady	551	v. Caryl	755
Wessenger v. Hunt	1093	v. Collier	1783
West v. Bank of Rutland	1900, 2006	v. Dunlap	1178
v. Blakeway	747	v. Durant	74, 104, 106
v. Bolton	1502	v. Hollis	1523
v. Chappell	1871	v. Howell	1712, 1717
v. Cole	1712	v. Lester	1224, 1272
v. Miller	1086	v. Perry	1396, 1909
v. Moore	714, 715, 1187	v. Sheer	7, 1531
v. Shuttleworth	1055, 1056, 1058	v. Sheers	1478
v. Smith	1803	v. Walker	1258
v. West	53, 56, 62, 751, 1228, 1229	v. Wheeler	192, 197, 943, 946, 947
v. Wilby	436, 453, 463, 466, 480, 482	Wheelock v. Pierce	289, 362, 432, 433
v. Williams	1219	v. Wheelock	1894
Westbeech v. Kennedy	90	Whelan v. Reilly	1125
Westcott v. Cady	1081, 1088, 1396, 1463, 1892	Wheldale v. Partridge	658, 665
v. Culliford	2038	v. Wheldale	2054
Wester v. Wester	121	Whetmore v. Parker	239
Westerlo v. Dewitt	774, 777	Whicker v. Hume	366, 550, 560, 1072, 1074, 1088, 1517, 1519, 1521
Western v. Chapman	2035	Whieldon v. Spode	1710
Westley v. Clarke	1833, 1834, 1835	Whipple v. Adams	108
v. Williamson	1895	Whistler v. Webster	1441
Weston, In the Goods of	153	Whit v. Ray	650
v. Clowes	2037	Whitacres v. Onsley	1729, 1740
v. Foster	1199	Whitaker v. Rush	2032
v. Hight	772	v. Salisbury	37
v. James	892, 898, 998, 1996		
v. Poole	1867		
v. Stewart	1801		

Whitaker v. Tatham	1482	Whitehurst v. Harker	856
v. Whitaker	410, 412, 779, 1119	Whiteley v. King	157, 360
v. Wright	1914, 1915	Whitenach v. Stryker	12, 22, 39, 41, 360
Whitbeck v. Patterson	89	Whiteside's Appeal	318
Whitbread v. May	1153	Whitfield v. Clement	1201
v. St. John	1091	v. Hurst	56
Whitcher v. Penley	1115	v. Langdale	1153
Whitcomb v. Whitcomb	1522	v. Pindar	827
White's, Angelina S., Will, In re	10, 138, 157	v. Prickett	1266
White, In the Goods of	94, 447	Whitford v. Panama R. R.	797
In re	130, 2054	Whitham, In the Goods of	286
v. Archbill	1953	Whithill v. Phelps	1536
v. Arndt	747	Whiting v. Force	1248
v. Baker	1466	v. Nicholl	318
v. Barton	2044	Whitley v. Stevenson	763
v. Baugh	1819	v. Whitley	1442
v. Beattie	1371	Whitlock v. Wardlow	1153
v. Briggs	108, 1125	Whitman's Appeal	1502
v. Brown	571, 1517, 1519	Whitmore v. Craven	1082
v. Bullock	1820, 1853	v. Orborrow	2007
v. Casten	127, 137	v. Trelawney	1082, 1088
v. Chitty	1266	Whitney v. Peddicord	1846
v. Curtis	1232, 1243, 1261	v. Sherborn	1517, 1519
v. Donnell	1387	v. Whitney	1054, 1276, 1656, 1657
v. Driver	22	Whitridge v. Parkhurst	1449
v. Evans	1479, 1480	Whittaker v. Salisbury	347
v. Fisk	1076	v. Whittaker	1762
v. Gardner	1819	Whitted v. Webb	1804, 1852
v. Green	1359	Whittell v. Dudin	1273
v. Hill	1086	Whittem v. Sawyer	1418
v. Howard	658, 663, 1052, 1055, 1058, 1070	Whittemore v. Bean	221
v. Jackson	2035	Whittle v. Henning	856, 2050
v. Lake	1653	Whittlesey v. Fuller	1462
v. Lowe	410	Whitton v. Field	1260
v. Mann	257	Whitworth v. Carter	749
v. Mullett	307	v. Oliver	575
v. Repton	117	v. Whyddon	501, 2033
v. Smith	665	Whopham v. Wingfield	1408
v. Springett	1119, 1120	Whorter v. Benson	1859
v. Story	1801	Whyte v. Rose	361, 365
v. Supple	1085	Wickenden v. Thomas	276
v. Swan	1946	Wickham v. Page	539
v. Taylor	951	Wickwire v. Chapman	427
v. Terry & Longmore	348	Widdowson v. Duck	1808
v. Trustees of British Museum	87, 89	Widger, In the Goods of	448
v. Wager	774	Widmore v. Woodroffe	1072, 1116
v. Warner	943	Wier v. Fitzgerald	17, 47, 346
v. White	50, 1070, 1106, 1116, 1266, 1708	Wigan v. Rowland	1054
v. Williams	913, 1153, 1472, 1481	Wiggin v. Plumer	594
v. Wilson	29	v. Swett	461, 474, 541, 809, 835, 836, 915, 1389, 1390, 1861, 2060
v. Winchester	1165, 1820, 1324	Wiggins v. Lovering	1803
White's Appeal	728	v. Wiggins	1457
Trusts, Re	1116, 1464	Wight v. Shaw	1224, 1232, 1261
Whitehall v. Squire	267, 270, 405, 407	Wightman v. Townroe	1791
Whitehead, Ex parte	1412	Wightwick v. Lord	1454, 1668, 1669, 1814
v. Cade	1876	Wigle v. Wigle	781
v. Gibbon	1707	Wigley v. Ashton	1756, 1775, 1783, 1939, 1941
v. Lassiter	1108, 1113, 1207	Wikoff's Appeal	74, 83, 97, 107, 130, 147, 187, 211, 217, 581
v. Rennett	1087	Wilbar v. Smith	97, 104, 1455
v. Sampson	270	Wilbourn v. Wilbourn	257
v. Taylor	293, 303, 308, 630		

Wilbraham v. Ludlow	1517, 1521	Wilkinson v. Schneider	1459
v. Snow	305, 635, 877, 1887, 1888	v. Wilkinson	1102, 1266, 1860
Wilbur v. Gilmore	790, 1730, 1732	Wilks v. Groom	1818
v. Tobey	12	Willand v. Fenn	950, 1836
Wilburn v. Spoffard	954	Willard v. Eastham	61
Wilcocks v. Wilcocks	1546, 1547	v. Hammond	265, 266, 292, 293, 362, 364, 432
Wilcocks's Settlement, In re	1267	v. Nason	650
Wilcox v. Gore	766	Willasey v. Mashiter	1867
v. Huggins	1883	Willats v. Cay	1416
v. Rhodes	1160, 1170	Willcox v. Smith	650
v. Rootes	192	Willesford, In the Goods of	97
v. Smith	991, 1587	Willeter v. Dobie	1768
v. State	1974	Willett v. Blandford	652, 1842, 1846
v. Wilcox	66, 1160, 1172, 1712, 1717	v. Earle	1011
Wild v. Reynolds	1223	v. Sandford	216
Wilde v. Waters	728	Willetts v. Willetts	1219, 1467
v. Wilde	759	Willey v. Thompson	647, 1801
Wilder v. Aldrich	847, 1732	William & Mary College v. Powell	753
v. Keeler	1743	William v. Gwyn	903
v. Thayer	201	Williams, Ex parte	1411
Wilderman v. Baltimore	1070, 1076	In re	1249
Wildes v. Davies	665, 1079, 1285	In the Goods of	79, 417, 546, 975
Wildman v. Wildman	860	Matter of	1425
Wildman's Trusts, In re	1211	v. Allen	525
Wiles v. Gresham	1800	v. American Bank	1844
Wiley v. Brainerd	575	v. Ashton	130, 1120
v. Gray	753	v. Avery	750, 753
v. Truett	257	v. Bailey	739
Wilgus v. Gettings	728	v. Baker	60, 158
Wilkerson v. Wootten	946	v. Beach	1088
Wilkes v. Lister	1795	v. Bosanquet	1754
v. Stewart	1809	v. Breedon	793, 794
Wilkins v. Ellett	362, 364, 1515, 1664	v. Burnett	10
v. Fry	1751	v. Burrell	1724, 1726, 1751
v. Harris	237	v. Buster	1819
v. Hogg	1828	v. Campbell	1819
v. Knipe	1268	v. Carey	791
v. Stevens	2052	v. Cary	791
v. Taylor	662	v. Caston	1112
Wilkinson, In the Goods of	281	v. Chitty	1220, 1269
In re	1561, 1634, 1635, 1636	v. Clairborne	750
Ex parte	1399	v. Clark	1232, 1245, 1263
v. Adam	98, 1088, 1099, 1101	v. Conrad	1287
v. Atkinson	7, 1530	v. Cotten	1389
v. Bewicke	1079	v. Cowden	1275
v. Bolton	1548	v. Crary	1296, 1297
v. Cawood	1757, 1876	v. Cushing	282, 302, 534, 1404, 1454, 1796, 2062
v. Charlesworth	846, 1419	v. Davies	759
v. Cheatham	749	v. Ely	687
v. Dent	1442	v. Evans	185
v. Duncan	1250, 1392	v. Fitch	45, 552
v. Edwards	1895	v. Floyer	390
v. Fowkes	2016	v. Fowler	1956, 1960, 1962
v. Garrett	1124	v. George	1767
v. Gordon	411	v. Goodtitle	212
v. Henderson	1743	v. Goude	27, 47, 376
v. Hunter	918	v. Griffith	1867
v. Joughin	1155	v. Haythorne	1241
v. Leland	293	v. Headland	1344
v. Lindegren	1076	v. Heirs	15
v. Moseley	346	v. Henery	376
v. Pearson	346	v. Hensman	1462, 1474
v. Perrin	650	v. Hichborn	665



Williams v. Holden	1821	Willis v. Green	2003
v. Hughes	1160, 1171, 1652	v. Jenkins	1098
v. Innes	1971	v. Kimble	1856
v. Jekyl	684	v. Lowe	78
v. Jones	142, 157, 1220, 1265, 1479, 1480, 1482	v. Mott	90
v. Jukes	444	v. Plaskett	1189
v. Kershaw	1076, 1077, 1720	v. Roberts	847, 1224, 1931
v. Lee	1378, 1933	v. Watson	221
v. Leper	1776	v. Willis	1806
v. Lewis	1106	Wilmott v. Jenkins	1364
v. Llandaff, Bishop of	1710	Willoughby v. McCluer	981, 1966
v. McComb	1079	v. Middleton	1442
v. Maitland	1804, 1820	Wills v. Cowper	287, 654
v. Marshall	938	v. Dunn	534
v. Mattocks	944, 951, 953	v. Rand	1801
v. Maull	758	v. Rich	302, 307, 495, 498
v. Moore	879, 1871, 1874	v. Wills	1513
v. Morehouse	980, 1310	Willson v. Pack	757, 761, 767
v. Mostyn	791	Willy v. Poulton	486
v. Neff	1216	Wilmot, In the Goods of	246, 253
v. Nixon	1287, 1796, 1820, 1821, 1824, 1827, 1828	v. Flawitt	1466
v. Otey	954	v. Wilmot	1080, 1086, 1466
v. Pearson	1070	v. Woodhouse	1303
v. Powell	837, 838, 1432, 1847, 1849, 1851	Wilson, In the Goods of	103, 359
v. Purdy	1039	In re	130, 1852
v. Rawlins	820	v. Atkinson	1122
v. Riley	1897	v. Baptist Education Society	779
v. Robinson	20, 21, 90, 342, 588	v. Beddard	75
v. Roxbury	1519	v. Bennett	960
v. Saunders	387, 1522	v. Brownsmith	1164
v. Stonestreet	1500	v. Buchannan	754
v. Storrs	432	v. Carmichael	1851, 1854
v. Tarrt	1465	v. Cobbin	1091
v. Teale	1112	v. Darlington	1697
v. Turner	1106	v. Davis	257
v. Tyley	138, 153	v. Doster	933, 936, 937
v. Wilkins	426, 427	v. Dunsony, Lady	990, 991, 998, 1005
v. Williams	108, 362, 662, 763, 903, 1052, 1055, 1058, 1070, 1076, 1125, 1515, 1663, 1664, 1901, 2005	v. Edmonds	549
Williams's Appeal	412, 416, 461, 464, 480, 578	v. Fielding	1683, 1714
case	582	v. Fosket	201
Williamson v. Advocate General	1630	v. Frazier	291, 410, 575, 582
v. Bolton	1548	v. Hamilton	1445
v. Branch Bank of Mo- bile	371, 936, 937	v. Harman	836, 837, 838
v. Howell	534	v. Heaton	989
v. Morton	936	v. Hobday	1937
v. Naylor	1206, 1803, 2026	v. Hodson	1999
v. Norwich	269, 633	v. Hoes	576
v. Smart	1515	v. Howser	754
v. Snow	1896	v. Hudson	257, 273
v. Williamson	533, 1078, 1108, 1153, 1176, 1364, 1391, 1425, 1844, 1852	v. Ireland	1893
Willing v. Baine	1219	v. Keeler	980
v. Perot	438, 502, 1663	v. Knubley	791, 1688
v. Peters	661	v. Leishman	1901
Willis v. Brown	1073	v. Maddison	1126, 1194, 1425, 1428
v. Curtois	1199	v. Major	663
		v. Miller	1499
		v. Moore	937, 938
		v. Moran	48
		v. Mount	1263, 1271
		v. Ogle	982
		v. O'Leary	1290
		v. Pateman	589
		v. Paul	1039
		v. Rousseau	817

Wilson v. Shearer	817, 988, 2001	Winter v. Winter	1222
v. Smith	371	Wintermute v. Snyder	1107
v. Squire	1154, 1199, 2041	Winterton v. Crawford	1082
v. Townshend	1442	Winthrop v. Jarvis	1776
v. Watson	650	Wintour v. Clifton	1442, 1449
v. Whitefield	237	Wise v. Getty	1887
v. Wigg	1758, 1759	v. Johnson	46
v. Wilson	179, 180, 293, 294, 650, 846, 1034, 1265, 1474, 1844, 1853, 1931	v. Metcalfe	1738
Wilson's Appeal	1860	Wiswall v. Stewart	1843
Estate	461, 529, 1287, 1399, 1796	Witcher v. Wilson	1943, 1944
Trusts, In re	1088, 1099	Wither's Appeal	1860
Wilt v. Bird	1980	Witherley v. Regent's Canal Co.	797
Wiltbank's Appeal	1395	Withers v. Yeadon	108
Wiltshier v. Cottrell	729, 740	Witherspoon v. Witherspoon	74, 106, 353
Wiltshire v. Rabbits	784	Withington v. Withington	86
Wimbles v. Pitcher	1121	Withorn v. Harris	1116
Winans v. New York & Erie Ry.	360	Withy v. Mangles	424, 436, 1120, 1121, 1124, 1462
Winch v. Brutton	1417	Witman v. Goodhand	47
v. Winch	1935	v. Lex	1070, 1072, 1076
Winchcombe v. Bishop of Winchester	1016, 1801, 1802	v. Norton	1172, 1712, 1717
Winchelsea, Lord, v. Garretty	1515, 1693	Witman & Geisinger's Appeal	1853
v. Norcliffe	422, 424, 667, 1469, 1509	Witmer v. Ebersole	1108
v. Wauchope	92	Witsel v. Pierce	452
Winchester v. Forster	6, 221	Witsell v. Mitchell	1086
Winchester, Bishop of, v. Knight	1732	Witt v. Amis	778
Winchester's, Marquis of, case	12, 40	Witter v. Mott	127, 184, 204, 206, 909
Winchlow v. Smith	976, 983	v. Witter	667
Winckworth v. Winckworth	1265	Woburn v. Henshaw	345
Wind v. Jekyl	6	Woelper's Appeal	857
Windeatt v. Sharland	448	Woffington v. Sparks	1014
Winder v. Diffenderffer	1851	Wogan v. Small	187, 204
v. Smith	1078	Wolfersberger v. Bucher	1876
Windham v. Graham	1095	Wolfinger v. Forsman	533
v. Windham	1290	Wollaston, Re	55, 63, 192
Windsor v. Burry	940	v. Hakewill	1753, 1755
Wing v. Angrave	464, 1204, 1269	v. King	1441, 1442
v. Merchant	774, 781	Wolverhampton Bank v. Marston	933
Wingate v. Pool	1946	Wolveridge v. Steward	1751
v. Wooton	529, 575, 576	Womack v. Greenwood	2012
Winkeep v. Hughes	1766	Womrath v. McCormick	1232, 1261
Winkley v. Kain	1153, 1154, 1200	Wonson v. Sayward	631
Winn, In the Goods of	189	Wood, Matter of	104
v. Bob	121, 122	v. Brown	450, 946, 1820, 1827
v. Fletcher	1912	v. Bryant	1432, 1538
v. Slaughter	267	v. Cone	663
Winne v. Littleton	687	v. Cox	1146
Winbrenner v. Colder	1057	v. Garnett	1844
Winship v. Bass	238, 575, 1310	v. Gaynon	740, 1199
Winslow v. Chiffelle	666	v. George	1178, 1187
v. Crocker	858	v. Germons	818
v. Cummings	1072	v. Goff	1860
v. Goodwin	889, 1092, 1224, 1225	v. Gold	362
v. Kimball	87	v. Goodlake	68, 168, 350
v. Merchants' Ins. Co.	730, 740	v. Griffin	1250
v. Tighe	1088	v. Hardisty	1020
Winsor v. Pratt	151	v. Hewett	728
Winter, In the Goods of	343, 364	v. Hitchings	499, 501
v. D'Evreux	801	v. Keys	663
v. Easum	856	v. Lee	1853
Winter v. Innes	1747, 2027	v. M'Guire	1090
		v. Medley	583
		v. Myrick	1808
		v. Nelson	239, 293, 588
		v. Penoyre	1387, 1424, 1425

Wood v. Ricker	2029	Woodworth v. Sherman	817
v. Savage	756	Woodworth's Estate	1711
v. Sawyer	22, 97, 101	Woodyer v. Gresham	875
v. Smith	2001	Wookey v. Pole	1179
v. Sparks	302, 655	Woolcomb v. Woolcomb	1182
v. Stone	292	Woodridge v. Bishop	405
v. Story	965	Woolery v. Woolery	204, 1502
v. Warden	758	Woolett v. Harris	1478
v. Weightman	1355	Woolfork v. Sullivan	271, 1800
v. Westall	2011	Wooley v. Sloper	1897
v. White	1150	Woolley v. Clark	271, 293, 587, 591, 593, 629, 630
v. Wood	22, 38, 40, 42, 71, 130, 157, 237, 366, 377, 380, 529, 1094, 1125	v. Gordon	522
Wood's Appeal	1108	v. Green	442, 467
Estate, In re	104, 763, 971, 1792	Woolly v. Sloper	1895
Will, In re	1211	Woolmer's Estate	1458
Woodall v. Woodall	1084	Woolstencroft v. Woolstencroft	1702
Woodbridge v. Draper	1895	Woolston's Appeal	753
v. Spooner	1622	Wooten v. Birch	1176, 1393
Woodburn v. Woodburn	1263	Wootering v. Stewart	999
Woodburn's Will, Re	1901	Wooton v. Cooke	802
Woodbury v. Obear	340, 360, 376	v. Redd	359, 1078, 1084, 1153
Woodcock v. Dorset, Duke of	1248	Worcester v. Worcester	1090, 1124
v. Hern	1022	Word v. Mitchell	1458
v. Renneck	1215	Wordsworth v. Wood	1219, 1465
Woodfall, Re	39	Workman v. Cannon	1080
Woodford v. Stephens	759	v. Dominick	87, 345
Woodgate v. Field	2007, 2048	v. Workman	1216, 1221
v. Unwin	1464	Worley v. Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton R. R.	796
Woodhead v. Turner	1710	v. Worley	1796
Woodhouse v. Okill	1330	Worlich v. Pollet	68
v. Woodhouse	2028	Worldidge v. Churchill	1217
Woodhouselee v. Dalrymple	1101	Worman, In the Goods of	60, 411
Woodin v. Bagley	650, 1801	v. Teagarden	1258
Woodington, In the Goods of	79	Wormley v. Wormley	935
Woodley, In the Goods of	79, 81	Worral v. Hand	1658
Woodman v. Barker	1871	Worrell's Appeal	1844
v. Chapman	1767	Worsham v. McKenzie	1953
v. Pease	730	Worshaw v. Gear	1887
Woodmeston v. Walker	751	Worsley v. Johnson	1118
Woodroff v. Winkworth	423	Worth v. McAden	1820, 1821, 1825
Woodrop v. Ward	1743	v. M'Arden	254, 276, 280, 1796
Woodruff v. Cook	938, 1909	Worther v. Pearson	1445
v. Cox	965	Worthington v. Barlow	1785
v. Woodruff	1931	v. Bullett	754
Woods, In the Goods of	243	v. Evans	1278
v. Elliott	1803	v. Wiginton	1449
v. Huntingford	1699	Worts v. Cubitt	1100, 1101
v. Moore	1200	Wragham's Trust, Re	1231
v. Ridley	121, 1861	Wray v. Field	1290, 1291, 1293
v. Sullivan	1176, 1177, 1396	Wren v. Clayton	1084
v. Woods	318, 1126, 1153	v. Gayden	2028
Woodshaw v. Fulmerstone	1021	v. Kirton	1819
Woodson v. Poole	758	Wrench v. Jutting	1457
Woodward, In the Goods of	142	v. Murry	38, 111
v. Chicago &c. R. Co.	800	Wrey v. Smith	1392
v. Darcy, Lord	7, 647, 1039, 1313, 1317, 1318	Wride v. Clarke	1693
v. Glassbrook	1217	Wright, In the Goods of	78, 79
v. James	47	v. Atkyns	1113, 1116, 1125
v. McGaugh	1876	v. Barrett	1078
v. Michigan Southern & Northern Indiana R. R.	797	v. Bluck	1901
		v. Cadogan	1293
		v. Callender	1360, 1367

Wright v. Denn	1085, 1087, 1088	Wytcherley v. Andrews	337
v. Grovier	1845	Wyth v. Blackman	1098, 1112
v. Hicks	1088	Wythe v. Henniker	1694, 1695, 1718, 1720
v. Leigh	1081		
v. Lynn	1070, 1071	v. Thurlston	1098, 1112
v. Meth. Epis. Church, Trustees of	6, 663, 1070		
v. Mills	1995	Y.	
v. Netherwood	179, 1204	Yaites v. Gough	921
v. Nutt	898, 904	Yalden, In re	1267
v. Rogers	103, 496	Yancy v. Smith	1445
v. Rose	689	Yarborough v. Leggett	1801
v. Sarmuda	197, 1204	Yard v. Ellard	967, 1799, 1800
v. Shelton	1079	Yardley v. Arnold	267, 970
v. Stephens	1260	v. Yardley	1084
v. Tatham	43, 51, 343, 344, 346, 360	Yardly v. Raub	757
v. Tuckett	837	Yare v. Harrison	2043
v. Vanderplank	2023	Yarnall's Appeal	751, 1080
v. Wakeford	77	Will	120, 121
v. Wallbaum	550	Yarnold v. Moorhouse	1266
v. Walthoe	84	Yates v. Cole	552
v. Warren	1440, 1764	v. Compton	1195
v. Weston	1361, 1370	v. Comton	287
v. Wilkin	1260	v. Kimmel	881, 1872
v. Wright	67, 87, 104, 144, 666, 751, 752, 753, 763, 779, 1500, 1849, 1851, 1894	v. Madden	1194, 1433, 1434
Wrightson v. Bywater	908	v. Phetplace	1253
v. Calvert	1157	v. Thompson	366, 371, 373, 569, 1088
v. Macaulay	658	v. Yates	658, 1156, 1196, 1392
Wrigley v. Sykes	655, 656	Yates's Trust, Re	1263
Wroe v. Seed	2035	Yeackel v. Litchfield	938, 1843
Wrotlesley v. Adams	695	Yearworth v. Pierce	731
Wroughton v. Colquhoun	1367, 2037	Yeates v. Gill	1103
Wrouth v. Dawes	1876	Yeaton v. Roberts	1093, 1219, 1243
Wurts v. Jenkins	1911	Yelverton v. Yelverton	1517, 1522
v. Page	662	Yeomans v. Haynes	2040
Wyant v. Wyant	1875	Yerby v. Yerby	192, 195, 197
Wyatt, Ex parte	2054	Yerger v. Jones	932
v. Hodson	1948	Yerkes v. Broom	575
v. Sharratt	2045	Yertone v. Wiswall	797
v. Williams	796	Yingling v. Hesson	2028
Wych v. East India Company	1913	Yockney v. Hansard	1290, 1291
Wyckoff, In the Goods of	430, 445	Yonge v. Furse	1267, 1702
Wykham v. Wykham	829, 1034, 1088	Yonkey v. State	1522
Wylly v. King	271, 1870	York v. Brown	1854
Wylly's Trusts, Re	1901	v. Waller	214
Wyman v. Brigden	650	Young, Ex parte	1860
v. Fox	650, 1983	v. Brown	349, 497
v. Hubbard	1844	v. Brush	1844
v. Symmes	87, 345	v. Cawdrey	1967
Wyman's Appeal	1800	v. Cordery	1967
Wynch, Ex parte	1082	v. Davies	1053
v. Grant	1020	v. Everest	2034, 2036
v. Wynch	1429	v. Hassard	1693, 1696, 1712
Wyndham v. Way	711	v. Holmes	1375, 1378, 1384
Wyndham's Trusts, In re	1112, 1129	v. Hughes	542
Wynn v. Heveringham	132	v. Jones	757
v. Wynn	1204	v. Kennedy	1975
Wynne v. Hawkins	108	v. Kimball	539
v. Waltham	1084	v. McKinnie	1232
v. Wynne	221, 1258	v. Mackintosh	1231
Wyrall v. Hall	7	v. Martin	108
Wyse v. Smith	1693	v. Munby	1739
		v. O'Neal	883, 1663, 1871, 1929

Young v. Oxley	542	Youngs v. Youngs	221
v. Pierce	436, 475	Youse v. Forman	8, 138
v. Radford	693	Ysted v. Stanley	464
v. Richards	102	Yundt's Appeal	1502, 1844
v. Robinson	1221		
v. Skelton	538	Z.	
v. Stover	1225, 1254		
v. Walter	2049	Zacharias v. Collis	51, 52, 352
v. Ward	846	Zanesville Canal v. Zanesville	1070
v. Waterpark, Lord	2031	Zebach v. Smith	951, 954
v. Young	1182, 1187	Zeigler v. Eckert	1297
Young's Appeal	198	v. Sprenkle	534, 654
Estate	749	Zeisweiss v. James	1052
Settlement, Re	1398	Zeiter v. Zeiter	1332
Youngblood v. Norton	1502	Zilkin v. Carhart	1966
Younge v. Furse	1267, 1702	Zimmerman v. Zimmerman	47, 107
v. Skelton	538	Zouch v. Lambert	1479
Younghusband v. Gisborne	1266	v. Forse	686

## ADDENDA.

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- Page 22 [17], to note (*d*), *Rollwagen v. Rollwagen*, 63 N. Y. 504, 517, 518.  
Page 30 [21], to note (*x*<sup>4</sup>), *Roberts v. Crawford*, 54 N. H. 532, 533.  
Page 33 [21], to note (*x*<sup>3</sup>), *Hardy v. Merrill*, 56 N. H. 227; *Roberts v. Crawford*, 54 N. H. 533, 534; *Nash v. Hunt*, 116 Mass. 253, as to opening and close.  
Page 66 [47], to note (*r*<sup>1</sup>), *Rollwagen v. Rollwagen*, 63 N. Y. 504.  
Page 67 [47], to note (*r*<sup>8</sup>), *Rollwagen v. Rollwagen*, 63 N. Y. 504.  
Page 69 [48], to note (*x*), *McLaughlin v. McDevitt*, 63 N. Y. 213.  
Page 72 [51], to note (*c*<sup>1</sup>), *Lewis v. Mason*, 109 Mass. 169.  
Page 73 [51], to note (*d*), *Rollwagen v. Rollwagen*, 63 N. Y. 504, 519.  
Page 336 [292], to note (*d*<sup>2</sup>), practice as to framing issues, *Newell v. Homer*, 120 Mass. 277.  
Page 339 [294], to note (*z*<sup>1</sup>), *Chipman v. Montgomery*, 63 N. Y. 221; *Hooper v. Hooper*, 9 Cush. 122, 126, 127; *Dimmock v. Bixby*, 20 Pick. 368; *Treadwell v. Cordis*, 5 Gray, 341; *Bowers v. Smith*, 10 Paige, 193.  
Page 385 [342], to note (*t*<sup>1</sup>), *Rollwagen v. Rollwagen*, 63 N. Y. 504; *Nash v. Hunt*, 116 Mass. 237, 253; *Hardy v. Merrill*, 56 N. H. 227.  
Page 386 [342], to note (*t*<sup>1</sup>), *Nash v. Hunt*, 116 Mass. 253, as to the order of proceeding in the trial of issues respecting sanity.  
Page 393 [346], to note (*d*<sup>3</sup>), *Hardy v. Merrill*, 56 N. H. 227, in which it is held, that persons, who are neither experts, nor attesting witnesses to a will, may testify to their opinions regarding the sanity of the testator when founded upon their knowledge and observation of the testator's appearance and conduct. This important case, which overrules *Boardman v. Woodman*, 47 N. H. 120, and *State v. Pike*, 49 N. H. 399, cited in the above note to the contrary proposition, was not reported until after that part of this work relating to the subject had been printed. The opinion given by Mr. Justice Foster, in *Hardy v. Miller*, challenges attention as a very able review of the authorities and a clear vindication of the rule adopted by the court.  
Page 402 [351], to note (*a*), *Rollwagen v. Rollwagen*, 63 N. Y. 504, 517.  
Page 434 [371], to note (*i*), *Rice v. Harbeson*, 63 N. Y. 493.  
Page 444, 445 [379], to notes (*p*<sup>1</sup>), and (*r*), *Newell v. Homer*, 120 Mass. 277, 280.  
Page 446 [380], to note (*x*), *Newell v. Homer*, 120 Mass. 277, 281.  
Page 1018 [951], to note (*A*<sup>1</sup>), *Chase v. Davis*, 65 Maine, 102.

